

61- HQ-7749

SERIALS 31-57

SECTION 2



*61-HQ-7749-28



Department of Justice

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Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0061 7749		2	31
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FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

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INVESTIGATION

SECTION 2
SERIALS 31-57

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

Origin: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

File No. 100-662

Made at: LOS ANGELES	Date Made: 1/14/42	Period: 2/13, 4/14, 10/3, 12/23, 24, 29, 30/41, 1/1/42	Made by: D. W. MAGEE GLB
Title: <u>CHANGED</u> <u>VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON</u> , with aliases: <u>Volney Mathieson</u> , <u>Volney G. Mathison</u> , <u>Gerald Matthewson</u> , <u>Matthew Blake</u> , <u>John G. Mathison</u> , <u>J. Mathison</u> , <u>J. Han</u> , <u>V. G. Matheson</u> , <u>D. J. Mathison</u> , <u>V. G. Mathison</u> , <u>Darrell Mathison</u> , <u>Darrell Martin</u> , <u>Martin Darrell</u> , <u>CHESTER H. JORDAN</u>			Character: INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Synopsis: Subject MATHISON resides with his wife, JEAN, a union secretary, at 430 S. Walker St., San Pedro, Calif. He is a radio technician and in March 1941 had frequent communications with the Federal Communications Commission and one communication with the State Dept. and the U.S. Civil Service at Wash., D.C. Subject MATHISON has been employed as a radio operator with the Wilmington Transportation Co. and claims to be interested in mining in Mexico. MATHISON admitted having been in Russia but claimed to be the representative of the International Telephone & Telegraph Co. Translations of material in Russian, received anonymously at Los Angeles Office, undoubtedly property of MATHISON, reflect that he was in Russia in Nov. 1933 and had radio communications to the OGPU at Leningrad, claiming to be representative of the "trade union American radio worker." Translations reflect he did not have a visa; passport apparently a seaman's passport. Material included pictures from M. KOMATSA LEONOV apparently taken in Nov., 1933. One radio message to OGPU reflects that MATHISON was working for recognition. The full import of this material can only be secured by direct interview with MATHISON, who appears to be a shrewd individual, possibly still connected with the OGPU. Investigation will be made to determine whether Subjects MATHISON and JORDAN have held radio telegraphers' licenses.

Handwritten: mmf, KH, 2M

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R 42 MAY 24 1961

-P-

EX-14

Reference: Report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, dated 2/27/41.
Report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, dated 10/29/41.
Letter to Bureau dated 2/27/41.

Approved: <i>[Signature]</i>	S.A.C. <i>[Signature]</i>	61-7749-31	RECORDED
COPIES 5 Bureau 2 Washington Field 1 ONI, Los Angeles 1 ONI, San Diego			INDEXED
2 San Francisco (Inf.) 2 San Diego (Inf.) 1 G-2 Los Angeles 1 G-2 San Francisco 2 Los Angeles			

cc - ONI + G-2
2-5-42 E.P.M.

JAN 23 1942

FIVE

Handwritten: Mr. Magdon

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The title of the instant case is being changed to add as an alias for VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON the name D. J. MATHISON, under which he is generally known in San Pedro, California, where he now resides; also to add the additional aliases of V. G. MATHISON, DARRELL MATHISON, DARREIL MARTIN, MARTIN DARRELL. The names of PAUL WRIGHT ORR, with aliases PAUL M. ORR, PAUL ORR, WRIGHT ORR; as well as VIOLET BALCOMB ORR, with aliases VIOLET BALCOMB, VIOLET M. ORR, MAY BALCOMB, who is the wife of PAUL WRIGHT ORR, are being dropped from the title of the instant report inasmuch as they are now residing in the San Francisco territory and are the Subjects of a file at San Francisco, 100-4367.

Confidential National Defense Informant [] has described PAUL ORR as follows:

Age	-	37 to 38 years
Height	-	5'9"
Build	-	Medium
Weight	-	165 lbs.
Eyes	-	Blue
Complexion	-	Light
Hair	-	Light Brown, cut short except on top where it is combed back
Nose	-	Long
Neck	-	Long
Head	-	Egg-shaped
Dress	-	Neat

C.N.D.I. [] describes VIOLET ORR as follows:

Age	-	35 years
Height	-	5'5½"
Build	-	Very fat and broad
Weight	-	155 lbs.
Hair	-	Brown
Eyes	-	Large, round, protruding
Lips	-	Big, full

C.N.D.I. [] advises that VIOLET ORR is now employed in a full-time job on the newspaper published by the C.I.O. at San Francisco known as the "LABOR HERALD".

Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN is described as follows by C.N.D.I. []

Age	-	About 45 years
Height	-	5'8"
Build	-	Heavy
Weight	-	165 lbs.
Hair	-	Brown

Eyes	-	Blue-grey
Complexion	-	Sallow
Mouth	-	Generally open; smiles a lot
Speech	-	Drawls

Subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases, is presently residing with his wife, JEAN MATHISON, at 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California where he is generally known under the alias of D. J. MATHISON.

As of April 24, 1941, Subject MATHISON was attempting to obtain regular employment with the Wilmington Transportation Company in connection with the construction and maintenance of radio equipment which was to be installed in aircraft purchased about that time by the Wilmington Transportation Company which furnished airplane transportation between Wilmington, California and Catalina Island, California. Subject MATHISON was employed as a relief radio operator, occasionally, on a steamship of the Wilmington Transportation Company traveling between Wilmington, California and Catalina Island. He was reported to have been hired through the American Communications Association at San Pedro, California, and could be reached at that time by telephoning a Mr. BAILEY, telephone Wilmington 4076, at the address 6340 North Fries Avenue, Wilmington, California after 6:00 P.M.

Police Officer H. L. RICHARDSON of the Los Angeles Police Department, Wilmington Station, reported as of April, 1941 that Subject MATHISON was occasionally receiving mail at 634 North Fries Avenue, Wilmington, which is believed to be the correct address which the Subject frequents, rather than that of 6340 North Fries Avenue.

Subject MATHISON has a post office box, number 422, at Wilmington, California according to advice received from Post Master E. A. MURPHY. It was ascertained that Subject MATHISON is still currently renting this box. In March, 1941, Post Master MURPHY noted Subject MATHISON drop three letters in the drop box. One of these letters had the return address, "Playfair Mining Co., VOLNEY G. MATHISON, Agent, P.O. Box 422, Wilmington, Cal.", and was addressed to VICTOR BELTRAN, #22 Avenida E.N. Caborca, Sonora, Mexico. Another of these letters was addressed to the Federal Communication Commission, Washington, D.C., having the return address "Terminal Radio, Box 422, Wilmington, Calif." The third letter was addressed to Dr. WALTER V. GOODFELLOW, 6381 Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, having the return address "VOLNEY G. MATHISON, Box 422, Wilmington."

At the Post Office at Wilmington, California, Subject MATHISON rented box 422 under the name, VOLNEY G. MATHISON, and represented himself as operator of a business known as the Terminal Radio Company, the character of the business being radio maintenance, address 122 West F Street, Wilmington, California. On the application for this box he gave as his residence address, 1107 D Fries Avenue, Wilmington, California. He gave as reference, J. BAILEY, 122 F Street, and the Motor Shop, 615 Avalon Boulevard, both in Wilmington, California.

The postal clerk at the Wilmington, California Post Office described Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON as follows:

Age	-	40 to 45 years
Height	-	5'7"
Weight	-	150 lbs.
Build	-	Medium heavy
Complexion	-	Medium sandy
Glasses	-	Have bluish tinge

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Postmaster MURPHY advised that a Mr. GATLIN, an electrical worker, should be fairly well acquainted with Subject MATHISON as GATLIN formerly had an office at 613 Avalon Boulevard, at a time when the Subject had a shop at 615 Avalon Boulevard. Mr. GATLIN is now located at 816 Seaside, Terminal Island, California, telephone 6679. GATLIN has advised that a man known as LARRY once worked with Subject MATHISON at the radio shop at 615 Avalon Boulevard.

During March and April, 1941, Subject MATHISON received the following mail at post office box 422, Wilmington, California:

<u>Return Address</u>	<u>Postmark</u>
HOWARD BODEN, Foreman & Clark, Inc. Broadway and Pine Long Beach, Calif.	Long Beach, Calif. March 17, 1941 8 P.M.
Treasury Department Mint of the United States at San Francisco, Superintendent's Office San Francisco, Calif.	San Francisco, Calif. March 14, 1941 4 P.M.
Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C. March 13, 1941 6:30 P.M.
Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C. March 12, 1941 4 P.M.

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Postmark</u>
Department of State Washington, D.C.	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	Washington D.C. March 28, 1941 7 P.M.
Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.	Terminal Radio Co. Box 422	Washington, D.C. March 29, 1941 9 P.M.

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Postmark</u>
P.O. Box 5398 Metropolitan Sta.	ROBERT X GRAYSON Box 422	Los Angeles, Calif. April 2, 1941 7:30 P.M.
Treasury Dept. Mint of the United States San Francisco	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	San Francisco, Calif. April 2, 1941 7:30 P.M.
Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.	VOLNEY GEO. MATHISON Box 422 (Registered)	Washington, D.C. March 31, 1941
Universal Credit Co. 115 East 8th St., Long Beach, Calif.	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	Long Beach, Calif. April 3, 1941 6 P.M.
(No name) Olive & Broad Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.	V. G. MATHISON Fwd to Box 422	Philadelphia, Pa. March 31, 1941
Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	Washington, D.C.
Radio Television Supply Wholesale Distributors 1701 S. Grand Ave.	Terminal Radio Co. Box 422 615 Avalon Blvd.	Los Angeles, Calif. April 5, 1941 6 P.M.
J. HERNANDEZ PEREZ Quitovac, Son., Mexico	Play Fair Mining Co. Box 422	Santa Ana, Son., Mexico
Treasury Department Mint of the United States	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	San Francisco, Calif. April 11, 1941
Southern Calif. Edison Co. 310 S. Catalina Redondo Beach, Calif.	DOROTHY JEAN X MATHISON Box 422 430 S. Walker Street San Pedro, Calif.	
Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.	Terminal Radio Company Box 422	Washington, D.C. March 21, 1941
U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D.C.	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	Washington, D.C. March 25, 1941
Hallicrafters Chicago, Illinois	Terminal Radio Company Box 422	Chicago, Ill. March 26, 1941

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Postmarked</u>
American Smelting & Refining Co. 405 Montgomery St., San Francisco.	VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	San Francisco March 28, 1941
VICTOR X BEETRAN Avenida E. #22 Caboñca, Sonora Mexico	Playfair Mining Co. VOLNEY G. MATHISON Box 422	Santa Ana Sonora, Mex. March 27, 1941

The wife of Subject MATHISON is known as DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON and also as JEAN MATHISON. She is the Secretary of Local #9 - Harbor Division, of the U.O.P.W.A. - C.I.O., with headquarters at 212 West 6th Street, San Pedro, California, telephone San Pedro 4076..

The radio shop once operated by Subject MATHISON at 615 Avalon Boulevard, Wilmington, California, was known under the name of the Seaphone Company.

As of March 3, 1941, Subject MATHISON was spending considerable time visiting with a deck hand on a tug boat named "Cuyemeca", which was then tied up at the City Water Taxi dock off Pico Avenue, Long Beach, California. This deck hand was reported to be sympathetic with the Communist Party cause.

Subject MATHISON is the registered owner of a 1940 Ford V-8 pick-up body car, bearing 1941 California license 23 T 274. The legal owner of this car is the Universal Credit Company, Long Beach, California.

Subject MATHISON has been a close companion and friend of ALEX C. HAGEL, who is of Russian-Jewish parentage and who resides at 2505 South Meyler, San Pedro, California. ALEX C. HAGEL is described as a Communist Party sympathizer and a licensed radio telephone operator, first class, who works among the Slav fishermen in the San Pedro, California area.

ALEX C. HAGEL in March, 1941, was operating a small shop on Terminal Island, California, being backed or financed by JACK MOSCOVITA, who operates the Zenith Radio Shop at 922 South Pacific Avenue, San Pedro, and who resides at 1459 17th Street, San Pedro. MOSCOVITA is reported to be sympathetic with the Communist Party cause.

ALEX C. HAGEL is reported as being associated with VINCENT ZANKICH, a Communist Party sympathizer and an alien Slav, who resides at 746 18th Street, San Pedro. VINCENT ZANKICH is listed in the San Pedro City Directory as a radio technician.

The father of ALEX C. HAGEL is a PHILLIP A. HAGEL, who resides at 2505 South Meyler, San Pedro, with his wife, SOPHIE. PHILLIP HAGEL is reported

to be politically minded and hangs around the city hall at San Pedro.

A mail cover has been placed on the residence address of Subject MATHISON and his wife, JEAN, at 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California. The only mail received there during April and May, 1941 was a letter to Mrs. JEAN MATHISON from F. WEBSTER, of the Warehouse Union, 519 Mission Street, San Francisco, California.

A letter postmarked Oakland, California, April 21, 1941 was from the address of 1162 32nd Street, Oakland, California.

JEAN MATHISON received a letter postmarked Los Angeles, September 22, 1941 from Mrs. BESS MANDEL, 4426 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, California.

On the morning of August 20, 1941, Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON voluntarily appeared at the Los Angeles Division Office to complain on two individuals who he claimed were rabid pro-Nazi sympathizers. He was interviewed by Special Agent LINSOTT TYLER. Subject MATHISON stated that during the summer of 1941 and up until the date of the interview, he has resided with his wife at 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro and was employed as a radio operator on the Wilmington Transportation Company's boat Cabrillo, which is captained by a Mr. HANSON. In the winter-time, Subject MATHISON claimed he was a mining prospector and resided at Sonora, Pitiquitos, Mexico, care of JOSE LEMAS, who is known as a merchant in that Mexican town.

Subject MATHISON gave Agent TYLER the name of a reference who could contact him, an ERNEST JUDD, who as of August, 1941 was manager of the City Water Taxi Company, 7th and Pico Boulevard, Long Beach, California, telephone Long Beach 62593. He described Mr. JUDD, however, as a nervous individual who was not familiar with any facts concerning subversive activities.

Subject MATHISON, during the course of his interview, made mention of his visit to Russia a few years ago for the International Telephone and Telegraph Company out of New York City. Subject MATHISON at this time stated that he was obliged to join some party over there in order to do his work and that this fact may have been the cause of his being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the past.

The primary mission of MATHISON to the Los Angeles Office apparently pertained to information on a FRED HEIDENRACH and a CHARLES SLOCOMB, the latter individual being assistant manager of the City Water Taxi Company. MATHISON informed that FRED HEIDENRACH was a rabid pro-Nazi. MATHISON submitted a list of fourteen questions which he stated were compiled by FRED HEIDENRACH. The questions were described by MATHISON as being of a military nature in that they involved facts about Southern California coastal harbors, ports, potential mine fields, and oil wells. MATHISON reflected that this list of questions was written in HEIDENRACH'S own handwriting. MATHISON professed not to know HEIDENRACH well but stated that he could identify him on sight. MATHISON considered CHARLES SLOCOMB as being unreliable and at times

very queer. MATHISON suggested that these men not be contacted but that he, MATHISON, be the contact man.

The material relative to FRED HEIDENRACH and CHARLES SLOCOMB was placed in a file on FRED HEIDENRACH.

Postmaster E. A. MURPHY of Wilmington, California, stated that Subject MATHISON still receives mail at Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California. A mail cover will be renewed on that Post Office Box. Postmaster MURPHY stated that he has seen MATHISON occasionally, going to Catalina Island, California, and that on one or two of these occasions, MATHISON has carried a little grip, leading Postmaster MURPHY to the supposition that MATHISON may be making radio repairs on Catalina Island.

The following is a description of Subject MATHISON as obtained by Special Agent J. W. KIERMAN, from observation and interrogation, and which is set forth in his report dated May 9, 1941, at Los Angeles, in the case entitled "AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION. INTERNAL SECURITY - C", Los Angeles file 100-4084:

Age	44 years - born Paducah, Texas, August 12, 1897
Height	5'12 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	170 lbs.
Hair	Brown, partially bald
Eyes	Blue
Scars	None
Complexion	Ruddy
Marital Status	Married; DOROTHY JEAN no children
Nationality	American

Reference report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE dated February 27, 1941 described certain material which was received at the Los Angeles Field Division, together with an anonymous letter. It was clear from the import of the material received that it was the personal property of Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON. Part of this material was handwritten and typewritten material in the Russian language.

The Bureau, by letter of March 26, 1941 (61-7749) transmitted translations of the above-mentioned Russian language material. The translations are as follows:

EXHIBIT S

NOVEMBER 3 -1420 G M T SKANMAIL

#1 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAY

O G P U LENINGRAD

ARRIVING "SKANMAIL NOVEMBER 5 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TRADE UNION
AMERICAN RADIO WORKER FOR HOLIDAYS NOVEMBER 7 HAVE PASSPORT
BUT NO VISA COULD YOU MEET ME WITH TRANSLATOR WILL BE VERY
THANKFUL

VOLNEY MATHISON

- - - - -

EXHIBIT R

NOV 4 - 1102 11 AM '5

#1 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING

SKANMAIL NOVEMBER 4 - 1102

O G P U LENINGRAD

WILL BE IN LENINGRAD TONIGHT ABOUT 11 P.M.

YOUR TIME VOLNEY MATHISON

#2 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING

SKANMAIL NOVEMBER 4 - 1102

IN PRICE LENINGRAD

TEXT THE SAME AS #1

VOLNEY MATHISON

- - - - -

EXHIBIT Q

NOVEMBER 3- Q S L FROM R D B #1 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING "SKANMAIL"

O G P U LENINGRAD ARRIVING FROM SAN FRANCISCO ON "SKANMAIL" NOV. 5

HAVE DOCUMENTS TO SHOW THAT I AM REPRESENTATIVE FROM U S A TRADE

UNION AMERICAN RADIO WORKERS WHO SEND ME TO YOU TO MOSCOW FOR
NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS I HAVE AN AMERICAN PASSPORT AS A SEAMAN BUT I
DON'T HAVE A VISA BECAUSE THERE WAS ONLY ONE DAY AFTER I WAS
ELECTED THAT I HAD TO LEAVE ON THE BOAT "INTOURIST" I HAD
INSTRUCTION AS YOU WERE INFORMED PLEASE MAYBE YOU COULD MEET
ME WITH A TRANSLATOR T Y K I AM AN AMERICAN MEMBER FRIEND OF
SOVIET UNION AUTHCR AND HAVE WORKED FOR RECOGNITION PLEASE
GIVE ME INSTRUCTION ON THE RADIO I WILL BE VERY THANKFUL
TO YOU

VOLNEY MATHISON

- - - - -

EXHIBIT P

#2 SPECIAL WITHOUT PAYING SKANMAIL

"30 G M T

IN PRICE LENINGRAD

TEXT THE SAME AS #1

VOLNEY MATHISON

- - - - -

EXHIBIT O

NOV 3 1400 G M T CALLED R D B

SENT S V C

R D B PLEASE Q S L OUR #1 P2

DATE 3 TO O G P U AND SPECIAL RATE WITHOUT PAYING REDUCED PRICE

K O D P -3 A N S K O J R-R D B NO, N O T R N O Q S L

- - - - -

EXHIBIT N

NOVEMBER 3 1420 G M T

#2 SKANMAIL SPECIAL RATE WITHOUT PAYING (REDUCED PRICE)

LENINGRAD

TEXT JUST THE SAME AS #1

VOINEY MATHISON

- - - - -

EXHIBIT M

OCTOBER REVOLUTION

NIKOLAI IVANOVITCH DOROVIN

DROGOMILOVSKAYA HOUSE #12 FLAT 4

- - - - -

EXHIBIT L

OCTOBER REVOLUTION

FRATERNAL GREETINGS

FROM THE FREE CITIZEN OF U S S R

MOSENOVA

MOSCOW Y D R A

SNARENON 1933 NOV. 8

MASENOV

- - - - -

EXHIBIT K

CENTRAL MUSEUM OF THE RED ARMY

- - - - -

EXHIBIT J

PICTURE OF MY LODGER'S CHILDREN WITH WOMEN ACTIVE MEMBERS J A K T a
IN THE DAY OF CELEBRATION OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION. AFTER CHILDREN'S
SHOW AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRESENTS.

M. KOMATSA LEONOV

NOVEMBER 9, 1933.

EXHIBIT I

PICTURE OF MY LODGER'S CHILDREN WITH WOMEN ACTIVE MEMBERS J A K T a
IN THE DAY OF CELEBRATION OF OCTOBER REVOLUTION. AFTER CHILDREN'S
SHOW AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRESENTS.

M. KOMATSA ~~X~~ LEONOV

NOVEMBER 9, 1933

EXHIBIT H

MR. LEONOV.

KRESTOVSKI OSTRCV

NADEJDINSKAYA ST. #7b FLAT 5

LENINGRAD, USSR.

EXHIBIT G

JULIA ~~X~~ STUDEVANT

BUREAU FACTORY NAMED AFTER STALIN

USSR MOSCOW 98

Exhibit F.

Nadia Preobrajenskaya

Danislavski Rinok, Sirotski Pereulok

House #16 Dorpus 5 Flat 130

USSR Moscow

Tovarich Valetin

Ounoi Pereulok House #4 VV-36

Fuam(?) J Y K

- - - - -

EXHIBIT E.

Do you have an address now?

Yes, I have an address of my wife.

I will give you the address on one condition--that your
correspondence won't concern me.

Is it clear?

- - - - -

EXHIBIT D

MR. GORDEEV:

D KRASNOARMEISKAY ST. 6 #6 FLAT 7

USSR - LENINGRAD 52

- - - - -

EXHIBIT C

IVAN ~~X~~ ZUEV

1ST. KRASNOARMEISKAY ST. 6, FLAT 8 HOUSE 13

USSR MOSCOW

- - - - -

EXHIBIT B

USSR MOSCOW

SOLANKA 12

THE ALL-UNION CENTRAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS.

ROOM #420

V. ~~X~~KUZNESOV.

EXHIBIT A

N SAROJNIKOVA OR S MEPSHTEIN FRIEND OF THE KNAUSA

PREOBRAJSENSKI, VAL, HOUSE 24 FLAT 32 MOSCOW 23

MATLIN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ON ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY

#"44 TRAMBAI ON THE END

NARKOM TRUD (THE PEOPLE'S COM'ISAR WORK?) STARAIA PLOSHAD MOSCOW

"BORODIN"

DVORES TRUDA (THE PALACE OF LABOUR) ROOM 410 ENO BUREAU "ARONS" OR

KLARA EDEL HELPER OF SASEPKY P' PERVOMAISKAYA ST 87 BLOVAISK

YABLOCHKOV N P

MOSCOW 17 BOLSHOI YAKIMONKA HOUSE #21 ROOM 14 RASHKOVSKI V E O

ADAMOV NIKITA PLENOVCKI 3 TIFLIS

NELEN GUARESOK ELECTRIC FACTORY ENO BUREAU

EMMA HARRIS KALANCHVSKAYA ST MOSCOW HOUSE4 FLAT 2

*KOLES S N DVORES TRUDA (THE PALACE OF LABOUR) CHAIRMAN

BLADIVOSTOC ROOM 79

T S LENOX FIRST ENGINEER FOR GENERAL ELECTRIC

ELECTRIC FACTORY TRANSFORMER TRADE UNION BUREAU

PREOBRAJENSKI VAL. MOSCOW HOUSE HOUSE 24 FLAT 71

GEO KNAUS BOSH WASHINGTON ROUTE 1 OUT WILLIAM HEARD

J2

The original exhibits, A through S, are being retained in the instant Los Angeles Division file.

It is apparent from the above translations that Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON made a trip to Russia, apparently about the year 1933, a date which is noted on the back of exhibit I. It is apparent that he did not have a visa but had a passport as a seaman. Investigation will be requested of the Washington Field Office to determine what passports have been issued to Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON.

It is significant to note that the translation of Exhibit Q, which is apparently a radio message signed by VOLNEY MATHISON, that he was working for recognition. It is very significant to note that this radio message was addressed to the O.G.P.U. at Leningrad, Russia. The translation strongly suggests that Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON was an O.G.P.U. agent as of 1933. It appears that when the radio messages were sent to Leningrad, that VOLNEY MATHISON had left the port of San Francisco aboard the boat SKANMAIL.

The probable source of the above material relative to Subject V. G. MATHISON, which was received anonymously, will be described to the Bureau in a confidential letter.

Investigation was made in the neighborhood at 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California. Agent, by undisclosed identity investigation, interviewed a neighbor at 428 South Walker Street on October 3, 1941, who advised that VOLNEY G. MATHISON and his wife had left several days before for a trip to the desert, she thought someplace in Arizona. This neighbor advised that Subject MATHISON has no telephone. She advised that her telephone number was San Pedro 5254 W, and that she would willingly call the MATHISONS to the telephone any time it was desired to converse with them.

Subject MATHISON, according to Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] lost his brief case in the San Pedro Post Office, February 9, 1940.

Subject MATHISON is reported to have many friends among the alien fishermen in the harbor area. In 1939 he was reported to have had a Mexican border pass. MATHISON is capable of building ultra high frequency radio sets according to C.N.D.I. [redacted]

Subject MATHISON, under the name, D. G. MATHISON, formerly resided at 1122 South Patton Street, San Pedro, California. He rented this property on July 8, 1940 and moved on December 15, 1940. The landlord was HENRY HAYNES, who resided at 679 Santa Cruz, telephone San Pedro 3219. HENRY HAYNES is a draw-bridge operator by occupation. HAYNES has advised that when MATHISON moved, he discarded old radio tubes in the incinerator. It was noted by HAYNES that Subject MATHISON, when he resided there, would be gone for periods of three or four days at a time. MATHISON sold radio equipment to fishing boat operators. When MATHISON moved, he told HENRY HAYNES that he was going to San Diego, California to build a new home.

It was ascertained at San Pedro that the utilities at the address 1122 South Patton Street, when MATHISON resided there, were taken out under the name of ROBERT GREYSON, who left a forwarding address of Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California. The period the utilities were used by ROBERT GREYSON was between the dates of July 5, 1940 to December 15, 1940, which compares favorably with the dates during which Subject MATHISON resided at 1122 South Patton Street.

It was ascertained that MATHISON first rented Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California in 1937, when he was operating the Terminal Radio Company at 615 Avalon Avenue, Wilmington, California.

The "WESTERN WORKER", a former San Francisco Communist Party publication, now known as the "PEOPLE'S WORLD", had an article on June 3, 1937, page 8, column 8, describing VOLNEY MATHISON as a C.I.O. spokesman. MATHISON is reported to have been in charge of C.I.O. Union publicity at San Pedro during the 1936 and 1937 strike.

It is reported that the Federal Communication Commission, Washington, D.C. has quite a file on Subject MATHISON.

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] stated that as of May 12, 1938, MATHISON is reported to have delivered what purported to be War Department records which he, MATHISON, stated he had found while sailing on a merchant ship in 1933 in the Port of Gdynia, Poland.

During the days when gambling boats operated off the shores of Southern California, there was a boat known as the "TANGO", operating off of Long Beach in 1938. The "TANGO" had a short wave receiver and transmitter known as K N U P with a frequency of 2738 or 2734. C.N.D.I. [redacted] advises that Subject MATHISON built the receiver and transmitter sets both for shore and boat operation.

Additional information was secured on PAUL ORR, who was described as an active member of the District Committee of the Communist Party in 1934. PAUL ORR at the time, lived in Richmond, California, in Contra Costa County, with his wife, VICLET ORR. He was a paid Organizer for the Trade Union Unity League and spent considerable time in organizing the farmers into a Farmers' Union. Several of the automobiles used by the sub-section and section organi-

zers of the Communist Party were registered to PAUL ORR or to his wife, as legal owner. A Dodge car was impounded by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office in 1935, which was registered to VIOLET ORR. A Chevrolet automobile in use at San Jose and vicinity by PAT CHAMBERS, a prominent Communist Party leader, at that time was registered to VIOLET ORR. During the period of 1934 and 1935, PAUL ORR was reported to be the paymaster for the Communist Party functionaries. Both he and his wife were active in the American League Against War and Fascism in 1935. In 1934, on an occasion when ROBERT MINOR spoke in Salinas, California under the auspices of the Communist Party, PAUL ORR furnished the rent money for the hall to CARL WILLIAMS, then Monterey County Organizer. PAUL ORR was contacted by ROY KNOFTY in 1935 for funds for the purpose of renting a hall in Hayward, California, where the International Labor Defense was holding a mass meeting. ROY KNOFTY at that time was an Organizer for the International Labor Defense, working out of the office of ELAINE BLACK.

ROY KNOFTY at present is Vice President of the Workers Alliance in California and is also the "PEOPLE'S WORLD" subscription drive director for Alameda County. ROY KNOFTY has been an active member of the Communist Party for many years.

The American Communications Association, Marine Department, has several locals in Southern California.

Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN is Secretary of Local #7, business address 212 West 6th Street, San Pedro, California, telephone San Pedro 4076. This local meets every Wednesday at 1:30 P.M. at the headquarters address.

The American Communications Association has two other locals. Local #9 has jurisdiction over point-to-point communications. JOHN F. DUNN is Secretary, with an address of 313 Currier Building, 212 West 3rd Street, Los Angeles, California.

Local #32 of the American Communications Association has jurisdiction over telegraph union employees and the Secretary is VICTOR SUTTON, address, 313 Currier Building, 212 West 3rd Street, Los Angeles.

Confidential National Defense Informant [] in March, 1941, was interested in ascertaining whether Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN held a radio telegrapher's license. The Informant advised that JORDAN has been active in Communist Party circles since he assumed the Secretaryship of the old association known as the American Radio Telegraphers Association, Local #7, in Wilmington, California, the fall of 1934 or early in 1935. It was definitely known that JORDAN had no service on his license during 1935 as he was active all of that year as Secretary of Local #7. He is reported to have taken a trip to Seattle, Washington in the spring of 1936 for a period of four or five weeks. He returned to San Pedro, California and did not sign ship articles or work on any radio station the remainder of 1936. After the termination of the 1936-1937 maritime strike, JORDAN relinquished his position of

Secretary of Local #7 and installed his brother-in-law, CHARLES B. LEIDEN. LEIDEN is reported to be another active Communist in the American Communications Association. For a time, Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN assumed the position of Secretary of the Los Angeles Industrial Union Council - C.I.O., with headquarters at 212 West 3rd Street, Los Angeles, California. He remained in this position until the fall of 1937 when he was elected as one of the Vice Presidents of the Marine Division, American Communications Association. Late in 1937 or early in 1938 it was decided that CHESTER H. JORDAN should go to New York. He was accompanied there by ROY PYLE, who was one of the elected Vice Presidents of the Marine Division of the American Communications Association. JORDAN spent about four months in New York, returning to San Pedro in the early summer of 1938. It was then that he decided to assume the Secretaryship of Local #7 of the American Communications Association, formerly known as the American Radio Telegraphers Association. JORDAN's brother-in-law resigned as Secretary of Local #7 and JORDAN was elected to this position which he has held ever since.

It develops that from July 1, 1938 to Labor Day, 1938, CHESTER H. JORDAN worked as relief telegraph operator for the Wilmington Transportation Company. This work consisted of two day's work each week relieving the operators of the S.S. Catilina, the S.S. Avalon, and occasionally the S.S. Cabrillo. During 1934 it is believed that JORDAN obtained very little, if any time on his operator's license as he was active in the 1934 strike and active in the formation of the American Radio Telegraphers Association in San Francisco, California.

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] from the above facts, believes that Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN, if he now holds a legal, active telegraph operator's license, must have obtained it with false signatures as to service performed.

C.N.D.I. [redacted] as of March, 1941, stated that JORDAN is reported to have issued a bulletin to all the radio operators on the Pacific Coast re-affirming that he is not a Communist.

C.N.D.I. [redacted] advised that Subject JORDAN'S record in San Pedro, California, since he took up permanent residence at that point, is one of constant association and collaboration with the Communist group at that point. This Informant states that JORDAN has been a sort of Commissar in this group, often dictating the policies to be followed. Every Communist, whether national or international, that has been to San Pedro is reported to have been in conference with JORDAN during the past six or seven years. JORDAN, in the office of the American Communications Association, 212 West 6th Street, San Pedro, ran the affairs of Labors Non-Partisan League, and he was Chairman of the San Pedro unit. At the meetings of Labors Non-Partisan League, such Communist Party functionaries as FRANK PADOVAN and BRIT WEBSTER and his wife were in attendance. Another Communist who attended these meetings is described as a little, short fellow, who was agent for the "PEOPLE'S WORLD", "DAILY WORKER" and "NEW MASSES" at San Pedro. Another Communist

present at these meetings was MARY WOODS, described as a violent functionary. ELMER MEVERT, Communist, and described as a smooth-working member of the San Pedro Local of I.L.W.U., attended the meetings of Labors Non-Partisan League when JORDAN was Chairman of the San Pedro unit.

Subject JORDAN was nominated as candidate for the 68th Assembly District in the primary election held in the summer of 1939. He withdrew when pressure was brought upon him by members of Labors Non-Partisan League, who, it is reported, had learned of JORDAN'S record as a Communist and subversive functionary.

The office of CHESTER H. JORDAN at 212 West 6th Street, San Pedro, for the past six years has been a meeting place and rendezvous for the Communist Party members and workers in the maritime unions.

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] secured confidential information that JAMES BURFORD, member of the Communist Party and connected with the U.O.P.W.A. - C.I.O., frequently telephones and communicates with CHESTER JORDAN.

The direct association between VOLNEY G. MATHISON and CHESTER H. JORDAN comes through their connections with the Marine Division, Local #7, of the American Communications Association.

Confidential National Defense Informant [redacted] in March, 1941, was interested in whether VOLNEY G. MATHISON, who has been a member of Local #7 since it was founded in 1934, has a radio telegraph operator's license. It was the thought of this Informant that if MATHISON should have such a license, it could only have been obtained with false signatures as to point of service as a telegraph operator. The Informant advised that Subject MATHISON was the first Secretary of Local #7 when it was organized. He continued as Secretary until he formed a company known as the Terminal Radio Company, where he was assisted by another member of Local #7, also a Communist, named HAMLET LOFTFIELD. The Terminal Radio Company built radio telephone and telegraph equipment for yachts at San Pedro, Long Beach, Terminal Island and Wilmington, California.

It is reported that this work by MATHISON and LOFTFIELD might have resulted in infringement on patent rights for the crystal-controlled, master oscillator, power amplifier circuit held by the Radio Corporation of America. The Informant advises that for this reason they were frequently violating Federal Laws in regard to installation of radio equipment and therefore they kept the location of their shop a secret. It appears that at that time, the only way to contact the Terminal Radio Company was through a battery shop on Avalon Boulevard, Wilmington, California. Subject MATHISON at that time resided in Hollywood, California and his wife was reported to have been employed as a script girl at one of the motion picture studios. HAMLET LOFTFIELD also kept his address a secret.

During the 1936-1937 maritime strike, C.N.D.I. [] advised that Subject MATHISON acted as Chairman of the Press Committee. MATHISON, according to the Informant, installed the radio telegraph equipment on the gambling ships known as the "Tango", the "Star of Hollywood", and during the fall of 1937, replaced the equipment on the "Star of Hollywood" with a 5 meter telephone rig. Aboard the "Caliente" and the "Tango" the operators were reported to be OZRO B. GUEST and A. C. ARMSTRONG, during 1937, 1938, and 1939. These men were electricians and during the last six months, Subject MATHISON was assigned to the "Tango" as telegraph operator. The gambling boats have not been in operation since early in 1940.

C.N.D.I. [] advises that from 1936 to 1940, Subject MATHISON never served at any time on a bonafide radio telegraph equipped ship or station and that therefore, if MATHISON has a radio telegraph operator's license, it must have been obtained by fraudulent means.

During the early part of 1939, Subject MATHISON and HAMLET LOFTFIELD were reported to have taken a mysterious trip into Mexico on a supposed mining venture. At the time there were some negotiations going on between the Mexican Labor Party and the Communist group under the direction of TOLEDANO with the C.I.O. group at San Pedro, California. The Informant advises that Subject JORDAN had a hand in this activity and received letters from a Mexican group known as C.R.O.M. The Informant considered that the trip to Mexico had political implications rather than being a mining venture.

X Confidential National Defense Informant [] advised that the "PEOPLE'S WORLD" issue of May 27, 1941, page 1, column 4, contains a statement of Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN and indicates that he was the sponsor of the testimonial dinner given for LEO GALLAGHER, a Communist Party attorney. This sponsorship is also reflected in the Los Angeles Times newspaper of May 25, 1941 at page 14.

As of July 6, 1936, Subject JORDAN was elected Secretary of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, for the Southern California District Council #4.

On or about July 27, 1937, Subject JORDAN then secretary of the American Radio Telegraph Association, sponsored the California Peoples Legislative Conference, which had headquarters at 424 South Broadway Los Angeles. This was recorded in a circular of this organization advertising for other organizations to join the California Peoples Legislative Conference.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D.C., will conduct investigation at the State Department to ascertain what passports have been issued to Subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, considering that they might have been issued under any of his known aliases.

Will secure information as to whether a seaman would be required to have a visa or passport in 1933 or 1934 on travel to Russia.

Will determine the nature of the communication had by Subject MATHISON with the United States Civil Service, Washington, D.C., in March, 1941, as well as the communication had by MATHISON with the State Department in March 1941.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT WILMINGTON, CALIFORNIA, will determine what activities Subject MATHISON has at the following addresses: 122 West 5th Street, 634 or 6340 Fries Street, and 1107 D Fries Street, noting that a Mr. BAILEY functions or lives at 634 Fries Street and that Subject MATHISON can always be located through Mr. BAILEY at 122 F Street, telephone Wilmington 4076.

AT SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA, will determine the connections of Subject MATHISON with ALEX C. HAGEL, residence 2505 South Meyler, noting that HAGEL probably finances JACK MOSCOVITA, who operates the Zenith Radio Shop at 922 South Pacific Avenue, San Pedro, and who resides at 1459 17th Street, San Pedro; further noting that VINCENT ZANKICH, residence 746 18th Street, San Pedro, a radio technician, is also a contact of Subject MATHISON and JACK MOSCOVITA.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, will interview ERNEST JUDD, operator of the City Water Taxi Company, 7th and Pico Boulevard, for his information concerning activities of Subject MATHISON.

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, will contact the Federal Communications Commission for information as to whether Subject MATHISON or Subject JORDAN have at present, or have in the past, held a radio operator's license.

Will report the results of the mail cover placed on the mail of Subject MATHISON at Post Office Box 422 Wilmington, California, and his residence address, 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS (CONTINUED)

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA (CONT'D.)

Will endeavor to determine whether Subject MATHISON or Subject JORDAN have a bank account to reflect any Communist or subversive connection, or that funds are coming from a representative of a foreign country.

Will determine the nature of the business engaged in by Dr. WALTER B. GOODFELLOW, 6381 Hollywood Boulevard, who has communications with Subject MATHISON.

P

61-7749-32, 33, 34, 35

CANCELLED

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 7, 1942

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
Files	_____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER,
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Volney George Mathison (with aliases)
634 Fries St.,
Wilmington, California

Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit, has forwarded a file containing an abstract of information concerning the above entitled subject who appears to be a citizen of the United States.

It is requested that any investigative reports and other background information contained in your files relative to the subject be forwarded to the Criminal Division, and that you keep this Division advised of any information received by you in the future on the subject.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

RECORDED

61-7749-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6 APR 9 1942

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FILE

CD

EX-14

61-7749-37, 38
CANCELLED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-4804**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 5/25/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/5, 11/42	REPORT MADE BY C. A. O'BRIEN CAO:EC
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with alias, CHESTER H. JORDAN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation have no records dating back further than 1940. At the Federal Communications Commission, it was ascertained that the subject was banned at the Navy Department as a ship's operator as of December 17, 1941. Subject took Civil Service examination for radio operator and received a mark of 98%. Never was appointed to any position. Employment record with Civil Service application reflected that he was aboard the SS SkanMail, from October 5, 1933 to December 3, 1933. Confidential informant T-1 stated he knew subject, at New York and is at present corresponding with MATHISON for purpose of obtaining information concerning his Communist activities.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE made January 14, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

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42 MAY 24 1961

At the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, High Personnel, the record of VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON was checked. It reflected that the permit certificate of identification for the subject is number 3-205-085 and further reflected the subject's address as given, 1122 South Patton Avenue, San Pedro, California.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 4 - Los Angeles (1 ONI, 1 G-2, Enclosure) 2 - Washington Field		61-7749-39 MAY 26 1942 cc to ONI - 6-2 7-13-42 LW	RECORDED & INDEXED <i>[Initials]</i>

COPY IN FILE

7-2034

The record showed that the subject was born on August 13, 1897 at Paducah, Texas. The records set forth showing description of the subject.

Height ----- 5' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Eyes ----- Blue
Hair ----- Light Brown
Complexion ----- Light
Small scar on chin.

The record showed that the subject had shipped out of Wilmington, California, September 19, 1940, on the SS Catalina. This was the first record which was made on the subject and the records of the Bureau do not go back any further than this so that it was important to ascertain whether or not a passport would have been obtained by the subject for his trip to Russia in 1933. The records showed that in 1941 the subject shipped from Wilmington on the Cabrillo and also on the Avlon in 1941.

At the Federal Communications Commission, contact was had with Mr. J. B. BETTLE who produced the record of the subject. The record reflected that the subject held a radio telegraph license, first class, which was the highest class license issued. This license was renewed for the last time at Los Angeles on August 4, 1936 and was good for five years. The record further reflected that the subject was banned by the Navy from employment as a ship's radio operator under the act of December 17, 1941. This is a public act 351 of the 77th congress which forbids the employment of any radio operator on any vessel other than any foreign registry sailing from a United States port. However, such employment has been disapproved by the Secretary of the Navy. From a questionnaire which was dated August 14, 1940. This questionnaire was issued by FCC issued to commercial and amateur radio operators. This questionnaire reflected that MATHISON was residing at 1917 Ocean Front, Sunset Beach, California, and that he was born on August 13, 1897 at Paducah Cattle County, Texas and was employed by himself at 634 North Fries, Wilmington, California. It set forth that his wife DOROTHY JEAN ASHLEY MATHISON was born July 18, 1907 in the United States of America. Father, Fred, was born in Denmark, October 5, 1862. The Father was naturalized and is deceased. The subject's mother was AGNES BERTHA PFEIL MATHISON, born Alsas Lorraine in Germany and was naturalized. At the Civil Service Commission, the application of the subject was obtained. The application was numbered 958121 and was for an examination for a radio operator. The subject received a mark of 98%.

Under the heading of criminal record the subject, it appeared, while serving as manager of a radio store at Oakland, California in 1930 was arrested on the complaint of one of the salesmen that the subject refused to pay a sales commission. The complaint was issued by a judge in Contra County, California in December 1930, case was adjusted and dismissed without trial. The subject also set forth that he had been arrested for minor traffic violations. The application further reflected

that the subject had attended Fairhope High School, Fairhope, Alabama from September 1909 to June 1913, and that he attended Lacone Radio Institute, San Francisco, California from October 1913 to October 1914. The application also had a photostatic copy of a Mexican Operator's license certifying that the subject had ability to receive and transmit thirty words per minute in Spanish. This certification was dated December 6, 1917. The subject also set forth his various employments.

The periods in question show that from August 1, 1933 to October 3, 1933 the subject was employed on the SS Chiloil and from October 5, 1933 to December 3, 1933 was on the SS SkanMail from December 3, 1933 to August 4, 1934 he was unemployed and from 1934 to 1936 was in business for himself. The subject further set forth that he had a Mexican radio operator's license issued during the last World War and that he acted as an intelligence agent and operator of a listening station for ~~COMPAGNIE~~ du BOLEO, in lower California and Mexico. This was a French Copper Mining Company which was acting for the purpose of checking on German radio activity in that vicinity. The subject set forth the following names as references in his application: ~~ALLISON KURTH~~, 1443 North Lagoon, Wilmington, California; ~~JAMES A. BAILEY~~, 634 North Fries Avenue, Wilmington, California; ~~VINCENT ZANKICH~~, 648 West 15th Street, San Pedro, California and ~~RALPH O. GORDON~~, 5708 Keniaston Avenue, Los Angeles, California; ~~GEORGE PERRY~~, 93 Giralda Walk, Long Beach Naples, California.

At the Federal Communications Commission, acquaintance was made with informant T-1. Informant T-1 stated that he knew the subject personally as he had dealings with him in New York City. He invited the reporting agent down to his office and he produced the records of the American Radio and Telegraph Association for November 1933, volume five, which reflected that the subject had been elected to report the A.R.T.A. at the Labor Organizations Convention in Moscow and Leningrad. Informant T-1 also gave the agent two letters one is a letter from the subject to the informant as above mentioned dated January 25, 1942 and set out as follows:

P.O. Box 422
Wilmington, Calif.

Dear Karl:

Just got in from south of the line for a few days stay and was at least amazed to get your letter.

As for political issues and the incident with ~~Pyle~~ you mention, that was cleared up years ago with Pyle's expulsion for his part in the affair. But at the same time the entire experience convinced me that I am constitutionally unadapted for any form of joint political activity and I have never engaged in any of it since.

This has not altered my outlook in the least, and I should be perfectly tickled to resume the discussion with you at the point where we left it pendant that day in the restaurant in New York with Hoyt Haddock. I am sure you are able to see in the way the world is blowing up at present that Uncle is and always was just about 100% correct. But that does not mean that I am going to have any single part of it, if I can help it. I decided after that experience to lay off all politics and go after some money and have had some occasional luck. Your information that I went mining is correct; have been on the desert for the last three years, both in Arizona and south of the line. Did pretty well in one operation and just starting another one now down in Sonora which should really ring the bell; am now building a mill on about half a million bucks worth of gold and tungsten ore.

Yes; I saw your article in the Digest; also some of your other stuff. I have been on the verge several times of going back into the writing game; but every time I got a new break and didn't have to bother with it. If you want some bonafide local color for wild west gun stuff, you should eventually come and camp a while down in my neck of the woods; I live in the real never-never land of western Sonora near the Gulf of Lower California, one of the least known parts of Mexico. We can't even elect a local "dele gado" (sort of village mayor) without two or three sixgun duels; as for me I stay far away in the desert during election periods and am so completely uninterested in politics I don't know who is on what side of which question whatever.

I think you should never have monkeyed with the CTU; for my part I would have preferred to stay inside the original outfit and carried on the struggle according to my views; this is one of those things we can renew the discussion on sometime perhaps. With best wishes and hoping to hear from you again, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

S/A MAT

The original letter is being forwarded to the Los Angeles Field Office and it may be noted that the word Uncle which appears in the second paragraph, tenth line, which refers to STALIN. Line one, paragraph two, reference is made with an incident to PYLE. This has to do with a trial which PYLE and other members of the A.R.T.A. had information that the subject was evacuated from his office in the Union and from Union membership.

Exhibit two dated March 12, 1942 and set out as follows;

Box 503, Brooklyn, N.Y.
March 12, 1942

Dear Mat:

I sure was flabbergasted to hear from you again after all these years and I take your response to such a notorious "red-baiter" as I am reputed to be as an indication that you are no longer connected with the good comrades of the Stalin front. I always did think, though, that you made a mistake tearing up your card at your trial and quitting the Party. You would have made a wonderful spy in the Party. I don't know whether I ever wrote you or whether you ever knew it, but Hoyt Haddock wrote and traveled all over the country gathering up that Pyle expose of yours. Even got Croney's copy away from him, which leaves mine about the only one in existence I guess. Must be a very valuable piece of early Mathison incunabula! Hi.

Those were the days though! I often recall some of the outstanding incidents and find myself wondering where the participants are today. Your columns of West Coast successes and then suddenly the curt notice, "Brother Mathison is no longer connected with the A.R.T.A." Guess you saw Pyle's frantic letters to HSH urging him to hurry out there as he couldn't hold the fort against you. One thing I was never able to figure out and I hope you will tell me the truth, why did the Party dump you in order to promote a second rater like Pyle. We need not waste time on Pyle, I know he was your student and that you made him, and his dismal record at New York soon showed Jack Stachel and Browder what a stumble-bum they had picked to direct the Party's affairs in communications. You had made a darn good record out there and not trying to flatter you but you were obviously a far more capable man than Pyle would ever be. Why the switch? Had Pyle gotten to Darcy and Bridges? Or just what is the low-down on this? So much for old A.R.T.A. gossip.

I am interested in prospecting and mining. Took a course in mineraology a few years ago at Columbia but was never able to put my newly acquired knowledge (?) to any practical use. I am tied down now to the East Coast because of my mother who is a one-legged cripple confined to bed and I have no one to look after her but one of these days when this war is over I want to prowl around out there in your territory. "Texas Jack" Caldwell, an old-time operator whom you may know did very well silver-mining out there in New Mexico or Arizona.

I hope you are not selling phoney mine stock because if you are my friends the P.O. Inspectors are sure to catch up with you. Were you ever around Cucurpe? Some slicker called Metz salted a honey of a "gold" mine up around there and stuck a lot of Hollywood nitwits for about 75 grand with it. What are you anyway a "gold" miner, silver miner or what? I certainly wish I could get out to see you. Gold affects me just like it does most people, makes me itchy and greedy.

I haven't had time to write a two page letter in a coon's age so your gold mine must have aroused my curiosity -- or cupidity!

Yes, I would like to continue our dialectical discussion some day that we broke off way back in '34. I'll never forget the dumb look on Haddock's face as he listened to us talk. I don't think that Texas scissorbill ever heard of Marx or Engels in his life until he came to New York. He was one prize yokel if I ever saw one! Say, that reminds me of a couple of things I have long wanted to question some authority on. I would like to get a good book on the OGPU. Essad Bey is a bunch of junk. Do you know of any authoritative ever written on that outfit? Has anyone ever done a fair, authentic and reliable book on the OGPU? Also who succeeded Felix Dzershinsky? There were a couple in between him and Henry Yagoda, Stalin was knocking them off pretty regularly then. I think Dzerzhinsky was a great man and a true revolutionary but Yagoda was a cheap politician on the order of Himmler. Or am I wrong?

Another question I always wanted to ask you. Who paid your fare to Moscow in 1934? I remember some motion in September of that year before I went South for the winter to send a delegate and then in the Spring I learned you had gone to some "Labor Conference" in Moscow where you met Kalinin and all the other party bigshots. But as the A.R.T.A. only had about \$500 in the treasury and still owed Delaney well over that amount it always puzzled me as to who financed your junket. Or is this a "state secret" you prefer to keep to yourself? I promise not to give it to the FBI. Hi!

Anyway, Matt lets keep track of each other and shoot me a line of the old Mathison bull from time to time.

With all best wishes and 73.

This is a letter which informant T-1 has sent to the subject in which he hopes to have the subject commit himself concerning his trip to Russia and his Communist activities. T-1 has agreed to keep the Washington Field Office informed of any further correspondence he has with the subject in this case.

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

At the Washington Field Office will conduct an investigation at the State Department to determine whether or not passports have been issued to V. G. MATHISON when he made his trip to Russia in 1933. Consideration should be given to the subject's aliases when making this investigation.

- PENDING -

- 7 -

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

T-1 Lieutenant KARL H. W. BARRSLAG, Lieutenant
in the Office of Naval Intelligence.

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
San Francisco, California
June 2, 1942**

8
7

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,
with aliases, et al;
INTERNAL SECURITY (R).

Dear Sir:


This office has recently been advised by the local office of Naval Intelligence that MATHISON has been denied the right to sail on vessels of the Merchant Marine as a radio operator. This action was taken by order of the Secretary of the Navy under authority granted by Presidential order.

A copy of this letter is being directed to the Los Angeles office, the office of origin, in order that details regarding this removal may be obtained and submitted to the Bureau in the next report rendered.

There are no outstanding leads in this case in the San Francisco office.

Very truly yours,

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R 42 MAY 24 1961


N. J. L. PIEPER
Special Agent in Charge

REM:MJD
100-2777

cc - Los Angeles

COPY IN FILE

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10 JUN 9 1942

RECORDED

61-9749-46
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 5 1942
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

This Case Originated At **LOS ANGELES**

File No. 100-662.

Report Made At LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	Date When Made 7/3/42	Period For Which Made 6/4, 19, 20/42	Report Made By D. W. MAGEE	MRK
Title VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases; CHESTER H. JORDAN			Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY-R	

Synopsis of Facts:

Subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON still resides with his wife, JEAN, 430 South Walker, San Pedro. According to a neighbor, VOLNEY MATHISON is very seldom home and travels extensively. JEAN MATHISON is employed in the Consolidated Shipyards. Subject MATHISON still receives mail at Postoffice Box 422, Wilmington, and receives communications from New York and from a C. C. CONLIN in Los Angeles. Secretary of Navy refused to issue a radio operator's license to MATHISON. Neighbors and others knowing MATHISON believe that he is mining either in Arizona or Mexico, and that ERNIE JUDD, city water taxi, Long Beach, would be the best man to know of his present activities. Subject CHESTER H. JORDAN is teaching marine electricity and radio in a school at Long Beach. Should MATHISON make trips to Mexico, he may be operating a radio station there as he did in the first World War.

- P -

REFERENCES: Report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, 1/14/42;
Report of Special Agent C. A. O'BRIEN, Washington, D.C., 5/25/42.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

The reference report of Special Agent C. A. O'BRIEN corroborates the fact that Subject MATHISON was aboard the S. S. SKANMAIL in 1933, dates of travel being October 5 to December 3, 1933, inclusive. This corroborates the fact that the radiograms sent to the OGPU in Leningrad.

Approved and Forwarded: *[Signature]* Special Agent in Charge
Do Not Write In These Spaces

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61-7749

41

RECORDED

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to operate a radio store and repair service in Wilmington, and inasmuch as VOLNEY MATHISON still maintains a Postoffice Box No. 422 in Wilmington, advised that MATHISON usually calls for his mail on Sunday mornings, but that he apparently has been away, as the mail has been accumulating for some time. It was noted that MATHISON had a letter from the War Production Board, Washington, D. C., postmarked June 7, 1942. He had letters from the General Motors Acceptance Corporation at 110 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach. He had a letter from the Ducommun Metal and Supply Company, Postoffice Box 2117, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles. He had a letter from the Carlyle House, 535-5th Avenue, New York City. The letter, when held up to the light, reflected that its contents were only a single sheet typewritten communication without salutation or signature, bearing only names and addresses. These names and addresses were as follows:

CURTIS BROWN, 10 East 49th Street, New York City;
BRANDT and BRANDT, 101 Park Avenue, New York City;
PAUL REYNOLDS, 529-5th Avenue, New York City;
ANNE WATKINS, Inc., 210 Madison Avenue, New York City; and
MacINTOSH and OTIS, 18 East 41st Street, New York City.

VOLNEY MATHISON in his box at Wilmington had a letter from 239 South Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles. When held to the light it appeared that this letter was from C. C. CONLIN or C. C. CONDON. The contents of the letter could not be ascertained from a light inspection.

Reference to the Los Angeles reversible city directory reflects that the telephone at 239 South Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles, is listed to ALEXANDER CONLIN, telephone Federal 6722. Further investigation will be made concerning the identity and activities of ALEXANDER CONLIN and of C. C. CONLIN, who apparently resides at this address.

Mail covers are being renewed on Postoffice Box 422 at Wilmington, as well as on the residence address of VOLNEY MATHISON, 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro.

As of January 30, 1942, it was learned that Subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON had failed to be approved by the Secretary of the Navy for any employment as a radio operator on board any vessel other than of foreign registry sailing from an American port because of his un-American activities.

Knowing that Subject MATHISON would be known to radio houses in Wilmington, inquiry was made at several radio places, including Marine Radiophone and RCA, and a Mr. ELLIOTT advised that very few of the radio operators in Wilmington had personal knowledge of MATHISON, other than the oldtimers. Mr. ELLIOTT stated he heard VOLNEY MATHISON was interested in mines in Mexico. Mr. ELLIOTT advised that ERNIE or ERNEST JUDD at the city water taxi stand at the foot of West 7th Street, Long Beach, knew of or keeps up with the activities of VOLNEY MATHISON.

Information furnished with the reference report of Special Agent C. A. O'BRIEN reflects that during the last World War VOLNEY MATHISON had a radio station in Mexico; so therefore it would be interesting to know whether VOLNEY MATHISON might be operating a radio station now in Mexico. It is noted that the reference report of Special Agent O'BRIEN reflects that Subject MATHISON had a photostatic copy of a Mexican operator's license certifying that the Subject had ability to receive and transmit thirty words per minute in Spanish. This certificate, however, was dated December 6, 1917.

It was not considered advisable to interrogate Subject VOLNEY G. MATHISON at the present time for two reasons, one, that Washington, D. C. Confidential Informant T-1 expects to again communicate with Subject MATHISON, and secondly, it is felt that MATHISON'S present activities should be ascertained prior to interview.

Mr. ALBERT R. GETTY, the neighborhood air-raid warden, works days and can only be reached late in the evenings. His cooperation will be secured to identify VOLNEY MATHISON'S present activities, including points of travel in Arizona and in Mexico.

With relation to Subject CHESTER JORDAN, Special Agent W. E. MAYNE on April 10, 1942 ascertained from a Mr. JOSEPH DESSERT at 812 El Mansor, Alhambra, that CHESTER JORDAN is presently teaching radio operators in a school at Long Beach, California. Mr. DESSERT stated that Subject CHESTER JORDAN was formerly active in the American Telegraphers Association, now known as the ACA with headquarters at 212 West 6th Street, San Pedro. So far in the instant investigation no direct association is known between CHESTER JORDAN and Subject VOLNEY MATHISON.

Inasmuch as the Los Angeles Division Office has a file on CHESTER H. JORDAN, L. A. File 61-496 entitled: "CHESTER HUBERT JORDAN, WAS, CHARLES LINDSTROM, "PEG-LEG"; INTERNAL SECURITY-R", no further report will be made in the VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON file on Subject JORDAN, and he will hereinafter be dropped from the title of the instant file. As a matter of record, however, Subject CHESTER JORDAN formerly lived at 927 Crestwood, San Pedro, and is now living at 477 West 22nd Street, San Pedro, and is an instructor in Marine Electricity at the Olive Vocational Center Public National Defense Training School, at Long Beach. Copies of this report are being furnished to the New York Field Division Office for future reference to cover leads that may be advisable on New York correspondence of Subject VOLNEY MATHISON. Copies of this report are being furnished the San Diego and San Francisco Field Divisions, as well as the Phoenix office, for the reason that VOLNEY MATHISON has been known to make extensive travel trips.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

* At the Washington Field Office will conduct an investigation at the State Department to determine whether or not passports have been issued to V. G. MATHISON when he made his trip to Russia in 1933. Consideration should be given to the Subject's aliases when making this investigation.

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

Will determine whether Washington, D. C., Confidential Informant T-1 has had any further communication or advice from Subject VOLNEY MATHISON.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION:

AT SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA:

Will report the results of mail cover on mail at 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, at the residence of Subject VOLNEY MATHISON and at his Postoffice Box No. 422, Wilmington, California.

Will contact Mr. ALBERT GETTY, an air-raid warden residing at 432 South Walker, to secure his cooperation in observing activities of VOLNEY MATHISON, his neighbor. Mr. ALBERT GETTY has a telephone, San Pedro 5254.

AT TERMINAL ISLAND, CALIFORNIA:

Will discreetly ascertain the nature of employment at the Consolidated Shipyards of JEAN MATHISON, the wife of Subject VOLNEY MATHISON, securing any information that may be on her application, and will endeavor discreetly to ascertain through the plant management the present location of VOLNEY MATHISON.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA:

Will determine from the General Motors Acceptance Corporation, 110 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, the history of VOLNEY MATHISON on his application to secure credit, and determine from this source whether VOLNEY MATHISON has a bank account, so that it may be inspected for facts it might record that VOLNEY MATHISON is an agent of a foreign power.

Will contact ERNIE or ERNEST JUDD to learn of the current activities of Subject MATHISON. ERNEST JUDD can be located at the city water taxi company at the foot of West 7th Street, Long Beach.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS (continued):

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION (continued):

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

Will determine whether C. C. CONLIN or ALEXANDER ~~CONLIN~~, residing at 239 South Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles, are connected with the Communist Party or have Russian interests, noting that ALEXANDER CONLIN is a correspondent of Subject VOLNEY MATHISON.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **100-4804**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 7/25/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/10; 7/26, 16/42	REPORT MADE BY D. A. HRUSKA
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases; CHESTER H. JORDAN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY-R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Confidential Informant T-1 received a letter from subject MATHISON dated May 30, 1942, which is set out. Informant also submitted information from ARTA files concerning MATHISON. State Department records reflect MATHISON received only one American passport and that was for a trip to Mexico in October, 1940.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent C. A. O'BRIEN, Washington, D. C., dated May 25, 1942, and report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE dated at Los Angeles, July 3, 1942.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On July 10, 1942, confidential informant T-1, whose identity is known to the Bureau, telephonically contacted this office and advised that he had received a letter from subject MATHISON in response to his letter dated March 12, 1942, which is set forth on page 5 of reference report of Special Agent O'BRIEN.

Confidential informant T-1 was contacted by the reporting agent, and it was noted that the letter mentioned in the above paragraph was post marked at Wilmington, California, on June 2, 1942, at 1:30 p.m. The letterhead of subject MATHISON's letter read:

COPIES DESTROYED

R42 MAY 24 1961

"Playfair Mining Co.
 VOLNEY G. MATHISON, General Agent
 P. O. Box 122 Wilmington, Calif."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">161-7749-48</div> <div style="text-align: center;">1 JUL 27 1942</div> <div style="text-align: right;">8/6/42 EAB ONI-H-2</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 1 - Bureau 1 - Los Angeles (1 ONI; 1 G-2; ENCLOSURE) 2 - Washington Field	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> 161-7749-48 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> 1 JUL 27 1942 </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> 8/6/42 EAB ONI-H-2 </div>

COPY IN FILE

7-2034

The letter as received by confidential informant T-1 is set out as follows:

"Dear _____:

"Just back in again for a rest up after a two month trip and find both your letters of March 12 and April 17. I must say you are certainly bitter about politics. Perhaps I have suffered greater shock, loss and damage than you as a result of ever being involved in political matters. But my reaction is quite different. It seems obvious to me that tremendous political forces are at death grips all over the world. It may be impossible entirely to avoid it. But at the same time I am resolved to stay as far away as I can from all these several forest fires and up to now the best place I have been able to find is the wilderness of the western Sonora desert where I don't even have a radio receiver and in general can do pretty much as I damn well please.

"No, I do not sell mining stock. I have some quite extensive mines, some of them gold, one of them copper and one molybdenum and this trip I brought in about 850 grams or .8 kilo or a pound and a half of gold which pays some expenses; in fact I have never mined at a loss. I live on a bonafide western Mexican ranch where there are no dudes and everybody wears chaps and guns as a matter of fact and not for fun. I am in partnership with a Mexican he runs the ranch and I run the mines and what we say goes around that section of the desert. I did have an American financial backer who was on the verge of putting about sixteen thousand on the line for bigger developments; he was in Nogales with his check on December 6th and on December 7th he got into a Pullman and tore for home and I haven't heard anything of him since; but we keep going along on a lesser scale than originally planned.

"No, I never heard before of Cucurpe, wherever that is and couldn't be interested in salted rat holes as I have too much good rock of my own.

"In your letter of April 17, you ask about Brockway, Dockendorf and others. I haven't seen Brockway since 1934 and the last report I heard was that he was working in the S. F. police department. Dockendorf in my opinion is just a rattle-

headed zero in every respect; haven't seen him since 1935. I only slightly knew Nottingham and Durbin; I suppose they are still pounding brass. Hersick I remember tore off to the Oklahoma foothills a couple years ago.

"You ask me who was the Russian head of the secret place before Yagoda; I uster know but all this stuff is too remote from my interests of the last five years and I do not remember. As for a book on the GPU, I doubt there is one in existence in any language that would be worth a hoot in hell; the GPU gents that I met up with years ago were clean cut well educated young gents just about like our own F B I. No doubt there were some bad eggs upstairs, such as mister Yagoda who probably got what was coming to him long ago.

"I don't see much to be gained by being mixed up in any way in all that sort of grief; somebody has to, I suppose, but as I remarked before I am more interested in making some money as I think it will always be sure useful, no matter what kind of government the world ends up with and the desert is certainly a lot easier on the nerves that any place I have ever lived in. Our ranch is on an old Spanish trail leading from the Boludo placer fields, the greatest in western Mexico, across sixty miles of desert westward to the Gulf of California where the old galleons used to load leather sacks of bullion asfar back as 1657. Another trail comes in from Hermosillo to the southeast and winds northwest up the coast, across the Devil Desert to Yuma; this is one of the old pioneer trails from Mexico to California; in fact California placer dust came southeastward over this route for some reason and the Apaches used to raid the returning travellers and loot their outfits; some of this California placer gold in rotten remnants of leather sacks has been found and much more is supposed to be around, but I wouldn't waste gasoline or horsehide looking for such stuff; I get lots of weird stories to which I have one answer, I have a mill, bring in your rock and I'll grind it up.

"I have a lot of marvelous story material on hand, but no time to make use of it, though I expect to manage that in the near future.

"Any time at all that you are free to make a trip out this way you will be perfectly welcome; in such event, however, let me know well in advance; we are normally in Tucson about once a month. You will only need a birth certificate to cross the line as long as you are not going into Mexico for business reasons and you should bring a couple of reams of writing paper, as you would probably find use for it.

Sincerely yours

Mat.

"P. S.: June 1st

"Had to come back to the coast for a day or two and find a nice lemon out here in the news of being on some navy list of brasspounders who have to go before a board and get a clearance on unAmerican activities. This is just one more example of the double-barreled grief involved in ever having anything to do at any time with politics--you end up by being regarded as a villain by practically everybody.

Mat."

Copies of the letter from subject MATHISON and the envelope are retained in the files of the Washington Field Division.

Confidential informant T-1 advised the reporting agent that he has in his possession quite a bit of information concerning the members of the American Radio Telegraph Association, usually referred to as A.R.T.A., and that this information had been originally furnished to the Bureau for any purpose they deemed advisable.

From the files of the hereinbefore mentioned confidential informant the following memorandum was noted:

"Memorandum dated May 27, 1941"

"Known Communist of a particularly dangerous character, that is 'Hatchetman' capable of sabotage, espionage or violence."

"VOLNEY MATHISON, alias MATT BLACK and several other 'party names,' reputedly honorary citizen of the U.S.S.R. for outstanding services rendered the Russian Revolution in the Black Sea during 1921.

First A.R.T.A. organizer on the West Coast until replaced by ROY ~~W~~ ~~P~~ ~~Y~~ ~~L~~ ~~E~~ on party orders. Wife's name JEANNE ~~X~~ ~~D~~ ~~A~~ ~~R~~ ~~R~~ ~~Y~~ ~~L~~, the Communist organizer and activist in the motion picture industry at Hollywood."

Exhibit from a letter written by MERVYN ~~X~~ ~~R~~ ~~A~~ ~~T~~ ~~H~~ ~~B~~ ~~O~~ ~~R~~ ~~N~~ ~~E~~ dated December 4, 1934, who was opposed to the Communist Party and who was an official of the A.R.T.A.:

"Matters regarding radical activities of MATHISON were not brought up on the floor but at the Committee meeting MATHISON admitted previous membership in the Communist Party. He turned his Communist Party books over to Communist members. MATHISON claimed that his activities in the Communist Party lasted only a few months and in no manner affected the United States as an official of the A.R.T.A."

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent E. B. BRUNINGA:

Confidential informant known to the Bureau, reveals that VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON was issued his first American passport on October 3, 1940, No. 672331, for an intended one year trip to Mexico for the purpose of "mining interests." Subject MATHISON requested that his passport be sent to him at Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California. The identifying witness was CHESTER ~~X~~ ~~H~~ ~~O~~ ~~E~~ ~~D~~ ~~D~~ ~~E~~ ~~R~~, 927 Crestwood Street, San Pedro, California, who had known subject for eight years. At that time MATHISON advised that he was born on August 13, 1897, in Blanch, Texas, and that his occupation was that of mining, and his permanent residence at 1122 Patton Street, San Pedro, California.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

HAH:ceb
61-7749
9/2/42

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
WENDELL BERGE

RE: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases
634 Fries Street
Wilmington, California

Reference is made to your recent memorandum in which you requested that any investigative reports concerning the above individual be furnished the Criminal Division.

For your information, I am transmitting herewith copies of the following reports in the case entitled "Volney George Mathison, with aliases; Chester H. Jordan: Internal Security -R":

Report of Special Agent D. W. Magee dated February 27, 1941, at Los Angeles, California.
Report of Special Agent D. W. Magee dated January 14, 1942, at Los Angeles, California.
Report of Special Agent C. A. O'Brien dated May 25, 1942, at Washington, D. C.
Report of Special Agent D. W. Magee dated July 3, 1942, at Los Angeles, California.
Report of Special Agent D. A. Hruska dated July 25, 1942, at Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours, *A*

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Enclosures

RECORDED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 9 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

RECEIVED 2

SEP 4 1942 9 M.

SEP 4 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 11 1942

RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
SEP 3 6 59 PM '42

67-7749-44
CANCELLED

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 15, 1942

WB:JTK:ew

146-7-1917

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Volney George Mathison
634 Fries Street
Wilmington, California

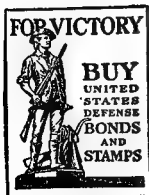
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Kramer	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

The Criminal Division acknowledges receipt of your memorandum dated September 4, 1942 on the above-captioned subject, attached to which you transmitted copies of five investigative reports.

The Criminal Division has reviewed all information available concerning this person and advises that, inasmuch as it is disclosed that the subject was born at Blanch, Texas and it does not appear that a violation of any federal statute is involved, no further investigation is requested at this time.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge
WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General



58 SEP 22 1942

388

RECORDED

EX-9

61-7749-45	
F	B
5	SEP 16

61-7749-46, 47

CANCELLED

changed
167565

NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

A8-5/OS1 (56324)
SOSSED-2C-JRC/dg-10/2

October 15, 1942.

From: The Secretary of the Navy
To: Commandants, All Naval Districts and distribution list below.
Subject: MATHISON, Volney George
References: (a) Act of December 17, 1941 (Public Law No. 351, 77th Congress, 1st Session).
(b) Defense Communications Board Order No. 3 dated 25 March 1942.

1. Subject radio operator on July 14, 1942, personally appeared before the District Qualification Board, Eleventh Naval District, San Pedro, California, and appealed the order of the Secretary of the Navy of January 22, 1942, removing him from employment as a radio operator on board vessels of United States registry, and the disapproval of his employment by radio communications companies and denial of his access to the operating premises of such companies dated April 10, 1942.

2. After a very careful review of all the facts and circumstances involved in this case, including the above described appeal, the Secretary of the Navy has directed that the disapproval of subject's employment as outlined in paragraph 1, be AFFIRMED.

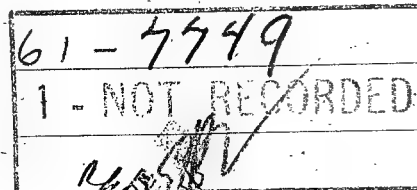
3. The Commandant of the Eleventh Naval District is directed to notify Mr. Mathison of the decision of the Secretary of the Navy and to transmit a copy of such notification to the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

4. The Department will also notify Mr. Mathison of the Secretary of the Navy's decision and will transmit a copy of such notification to the Commandant of the Eleventh Naval District.

/S/ RALPH A. BARD,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy
By direction of the Secretary of the Navy.

Distribution:

Chief of Naval Operations
Op-16-Bf-1; Op-20; Op-16
Chief of Naval Personnel
Commandant of Coast Guard (20)
The Attorney General
The Secretary of Commerce
Chairman of Maritime Commission; Operations; Personnel
Chairman of Federal Communications Commission; Chief of Field Division
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation
Director of Military Intelligence Division
Civil Aeronautics Administration
DIO's, All Naval Districts
Department of State - Passport Division
War Department - Traffic Security Board



64-103
81 NOV 9 1942

NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

OCT 16 1942

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300.

MAIL ROOM
TO
STOP
NAVY MAIL ROOM

Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

This case originated at: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

File No. 100-662

Made at:

Date Made

Period:

Report made by:

Los Angeles, California

11-13-42

10/1,2,29,30/42;

11/3,4,7/42;

WILEY E. MAYNE

Mch

Title:

Character:

CHANGED:-

VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases: Volney

INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Mathieson, Volney G. Mathieson, Gerald

CUSTODIAL DETENTION;

Matthewson, Matthew Blake, John G. Mathison, J. Hall,

V.G. Mathesan, D.J. Mathison, V.G. Mathison, Darrell

Mathison, Darrell Martin, Martin Darrell;

Synopsis of Facts:

Subject operated mining and milling equipment at El Datil Municipality, Pitiquitos, Sonora, Mexico, from December 1941 to September 1942, discontinuing operations because of shortage of supplies. He then returned to his home at 430 South Walker, San Pedro and since September 28, 1942, has been employed in Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, as an electrician. Personal history in application set forth. Neighbor reports no suspicious activity on part of subject's wife DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON employed as stenographer at Consolidated Shipyards, Wilmington, California, from 1-20-42 to 10-24-42; now employed as stenographer Banning Stevedore Company, Wilmington.

COPIES DESTROYED

R42 MAY 24 1961

P.

Reference:

Report of Special Agent DAVID W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, California, 7-3-42;

Report of Special Agent D. A. HRUSKA, Washington, D.C. 7-25-42;

Approved and

Special Agent

Do not write in these spaces.

Forwarded:

In Charge

55 DEC 22 1942 72

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1-San Diego

cc to DIR
5-1-48
ENG

10 NOV - 8 1942

1-ONI, Los Angeles

1-G2, Los Angeles

1-ONI, San Diego

1-G2, Presidio,

2-Los Angeles

San Francisco

EX - 30

COPY IN FILE 72

Details:

The title of this case is being changed to delete the name of CHESTER H. JORDAN as a subject inasmuch as the Los Angeles Field Division now has a file on JORDAN, L.A. 61-496 - entitled CHESTER HUBERT JORDAN with aliases; Internal Security (R). No further report on subject JORDAN will be made in the instant file.

omitted in
cc sent to
D/R
EMG.

At Long Beach, California

MR. G. COPE, Credit Manager, General Motors Acceptance Corporation, advised that the Long Beach Office of his Company, was financing the purchase of an automobile by the subject VOLNEY MATHISON. He stated that circumstances of the transaction had been rather unusual inasmuch as he had never seen the subject and all correspondence had been carried on with MATHISON'S wife. Due to this situation MR. COPE'S suspicion had been aroused and he had endeavored to locate MATHISON with negative results. It was MR. COPE'S understanding that subject MATHISON was mining somewhere in Mexico in March of 1942. MATHISON gave the following information concerning himself to GMAC:

Residence - 430 South Walker Street;

Former address - 634 North Fries, Wilmington, California - eight years;

" " 666 Van Ness, North Hollywood, California - three years;

Occupation - Mining Engineer;

Bank - Farmers & Merchants Bank.

Nearest relative - MARY WILLIS, Mine, Nevada (Aunt).

He gave as his wife's nearest relative ROBERTA SHELLEY 2662 Ben Vomed, Berkeley, California. He indicated his income was \$300. per month. The subject indicated that his wife had an account at the Bank of America, in San Pedro; business firms given as references were - SEARS & ROEBUCK COMPANY, Olympic Blvd.; BARKER BROTHERS; MR. JAMES BAILEY. In regard to his former employment, the subject stated that he had always worked for himself. He is 44 years of age.

According to MR. COPE, GMAC has no knowledge as to the source of the payments which the Company regularly receives on the automobile, but the Company's communications to MATHISON are directed to 430 South Walker, and payments on the automobile will continue until August 1943.

At Wilmington, California

MR. G. FISH, Personnel Manager, Consolidated Steel Ship Building Division, Wilmington, California, advised on the subject's wife DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON was employed at his stenographer-Clerk in the expediting department from January 24, 1942. Prior to this time she was employed at the CRAIG which is a subsidiary of Consolidated at Long Beach, from January 20, 1942.

Subject's wife gave the following information concerning herself in her personnel file: Address 430 South Walker; owns home; no dependents; description:-

Height - 5 ft. 4 in.
Weight - 116 pounds

Hair - brown
Eyes - Brown

Age - 35; born 7-18-1907
Huntington, Indiana

Parents:- ROBERT F. ASHLEY - Born in Kentucky;
NELLIE ASHLEY (Born Oklahoma);

Maiden name - DOROTHY JEAN ASHLEY.

She married VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON at an undisclosed date; however, she stated that the marriage is recorded on page 67 of the records of Alameda County, California.

Under education it was indicated that she graduated from the Danville, Illinois Public Schools and high school in 1925; she attended one session of the CHARLESTON NORMAL SCHOOL (Teacher's College).

She gave as references:-

MRS. MABEL RAY, 415 Elm Street, Long Beach, California; known 4 years;

MISS ANNE JACKSON - Employee at Consolidated Shipyard, Long Beach; known 3 yrs;

She stated that her Mother now bearing the name of MRS. WARKENTIN is residing presently at 1371 45th Avenue, San Francisco, California.

She listed as her former employers:

September 1925 to June 1927 - Grammar School Teacher in

Danville, Illinois Public Schools - resigned to move to California;

October 1928 to January 1932 - DEX VOLNEY; she did manuscript work for VOLNEY, an Author in San Francisco and New York; left to accept a position with N.B.C.;

January 1932 to March 1934 - NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, San Francisco, California - Music Rights Dept. Resigned to move to Los Angeles;

March 1934 to September 1934 - Doctors' Business Bureau, Los Angeles - Book work;

September 1934 to March 1938 - NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, Hollywood - Secretary to Production Manager - resigned to accept position with advertising agency;

March 1938 to March 1939 - WILLIAM ESTY ADVERTISING AGENCY - Hollywood - Secretary & Receptionist; Discontinued - Agency returned to New York;

March 1939 to March 1940 - Housewife;

May 1940 to - - TERMINAL RADIO - Wilmington & San Pedro; Wilmington, California;

Blvd., 122 Patton, San Pedro. She resigned on October 24, 1940

her reason as wishing to accept a position with BANNING COMPANY

Wilmington, California; The BANNING COMPANY is a Stevedore Company.

At San Pedro, California

MRS. ALBERT R. GETTY, 422 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California, advised that Subject VOLNEY MATHISON returned to San Pedro during July 1942, discontinuing his Mexican Mining Operations and has continuously resided at 430 South Walker since that time. It was MRS. GETTY'S understanding that the subject had lost a good deal of money in connection with his mining; as the mine had not produced, he had lost his entire personal investment and had been unable to secure backers. Due to the war he was unable to get the necessary materials and supplies to continue.

Upon returning to San Pedro, he spent several months trying to obtain employment in the radio field but was unable to do so. He then decided to apply for work in the shipyards and had obtained a job as an Electrician at Los Angeles Shipbuilding & Drydock Corporation, in September shortly after his original interview. He now works on the day-shift.

MRS. GETTY described the MATHISONS as being good neighbors who seemed to mind their own business, and who never caused any trouble of any kind. She stated there has been no unusual activity around the MATHISON residence either before or after MATHISON'S return to San Pedro. She was very sure that there had been no meetings at the MATHISON residence. She stated that subject VOLNEY MATHISON was a very reserved individual who kept to himself and did not like to talk with MRS. GETTY, her husband or others. She stated that MATHISONS go out very little, and seem to spend most of their evenings at home. They have never said or done anything which would indicate that they are not reliable American citizens according to MRS. GETTY. She stated she recalled that MRS. MATHISON had planned to go to Mexico where the subject was mining until the outbreak of the war, after which MRS. MATHISON told MRS. GETTY she believed she would remain in San Pedro as she could be more helpful in connection with the war effort there. She stated that MRS. MATHISON has a friend, LILLIAN (last name unknown) who is now residing with the MATHISONS, and is also an employee at the Consolidated Shipyards. This LILLIAN was described to be around 30 years of age and was stated to drive a Ford Coupe. MRS. GETTY could furnish no information concerning the background of this LILLIAN. She stated that MRS. MATHISON had resigned her position at Consolidated sometime in October and now has a new job working near the Catalina Docks which pays much better money than the shipyards.

She stated that MRS. MATHISON has a Mother and sister residing at San Francisco and another sister in Beverly Hills, all of whom visit the MATHISON residence occasionally.

MRS. GETTY recalled that uniformed Officers who she believed to be connected with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office, had called at her home late October to inquire about the ownership of MATHISON'S automobile, and they gave her no information concerning the reason for the inquiry but immediately went to the MATHISON house where they proceeded to search the car, and then drove it away. MRS. GETTY advised that MATHISON was again driving the car in about two days, and she thought it might have been repossessed temporarily. (This automobile is a Chevrolet 6-cylinder business coupe - Model #1941, License, Calif. 4X3619; Legal owner is GMAC, Ocean Center Building, Long Beach). MRS. GETTY

agreed to keep this Office informed of any unusual activity which might develop at the MATHISON residence.

MR. GEORGE RICHARDSON, Personnel Office of the Los Angeles Ship Building and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, advised that Subject VOLNEY MATHISON started work as an Electrician at this Company on September 28, 1942. The following information appears on subject's application which was made available by MR. RICHARDSON:-

Description:

Height - 5 ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in	Eyes - Blue	Age - 45
Weight - 170 pounds	Glasses - Wears Glasses	(born at Blanche,
Hair - Brown	Born - 8-13-1897	Cattle County,
		Texas)
Father - was born in Denmark; Mother - was born in France		

Wears false teeth (Subject lost all of his teeth in 1932 as a result of Mercurial Poisoning sustained while mining Cinnabar, when he was self-employed)

It was further indicated that the subject owns a home; has no life insurance, and is registered for Selective Service with Local Board #1, Federal Building, Tucson, Arizona. It was indicated he was classified as "3-A". Subject's Mother BERTHA MATHISON resides at 1967 Auseon Avenue, Oakland, California; his wife JEAN MATHISON, 430 South Walker, San Pedro; sisters - EVELYN GILL, Coquille, Oregon (deceased).

Former employers were indicated as follows:-

December 1941 to September 1942 - Employed by self;
Reference G. BENSON, 102 Grand Avenue, Nogales,
Arizona; operating mining and milling machinery;
variable wages; discontinued because of shortage of
supplies;

September 1939 to December 1941; Play-Fair Mining Company,
El Alamo, B.C. Mexico. (Out of business);
Salary \$400. per month. Subject supervised the Installation
and Maintenance of an 80-kilowatt electrical power plant and
associated equipment for this Company. The job ended when
the Company shut down.

July 1938 to September 1939. Subject was in charge of the installation
and maintenance of electrical and communications equipment
aboard the S.S. "REX." (Subject listed this as the most res-
ponsible position he ever held, involving designing, construct-
ing, installing and maintaining various units of electrical
equipment). Reference was given as A. STRALLA, 318 North Elm
Beverly Hills, California. Salary was indicated as "Started
\$50. a week; ended at \$150." Position ended when the ship
ceased operation; "

(continued)

May 1935 to July 1938 - did similar work on the S.S. "TANGO" operated by the "TANGO CORPORATION." Salary - \$75.00 per week;
May 1934 to May 1935 - Self-employed at various wages, building and installing Marine electrical signal and radio equipment;
September 1932 to May 1934 - Unemployed. Did fiction writing for various pulp magazines.

The subject indicated he had traveled in Mexico from September of 1939 until September 1942, principally in Sonora, and has been operating mining and milling equipment at El Datil Municipality of Pitiquitos, Sonora, Mexico since December 1941. The subject stated that during the years 1914 to 1918 he was employed at the Alaska Codfish Company and at the Union Codfish Company, both of San Francisco, in construction work at Ungala Island and Popoff Island in Alaska. These Companies were packing fish on Army contract. Subject held a draft classification of "3-E" or "3-?" as technical expert in an essential industry. The subject has experience as a crane operator (Motor) for twelve months, (steam) 12 mos. and as electrician for 100 months. He made the usual affidavit required of shipyard employees to the effect that he is not now and has never been a member of the Communist Party or any other subversive organization.

Under education he indicated he attended the Fairhope Public Schools, Fairhope, Alabama; Fairhope High School - graduated 1914. It was indicated "also studied ICS Engineering." No military record was indicated.

He gave as references:-

E. A. JUDD, Owner Pacific Toll Boat and Salvage Company, 1315 West 7th Street, Long Beach;
DARRELL KING - Owner King's Live Bait Boat Service, Newport Beach, Calif.;
B. M. SNYDER - President Southwest Mining Association, 117 South Sycamore, Los Angeles.

The files of the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation contained a letter written to MATHISON by the Bureau of Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, dated September 9, 1940. This letter states that the subject was listed as 12 years old, and the son of BERTHA MATHISON born in Texas according to the Census of 1910 taken in Fairhope, Alabama.

Former addresses of the subject were indicated as:-

September 1936 to July 1940 - 1917 Ocean Front, Sunset Beach, California;
July 1940 to December 1940 - 1122 South Patton, San Pedro, California;
December 1940 to September 1942 - 430 South Walker.

MATHISON indicated these were his home addresses; that he was away mining or examining mines in lower California, and Sonora from September 1939 until September of 1942, mostly at El Datil, Sonora, Mexico.

A letter was written to the Postmasters at Wilmington and San Pedro, California, requesting mail covers placed on Subject's Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California, and his residence at 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro; this was done under date of November 13, 1942.

MR. ERNEST JUDD who operates the City Water Taxi Company at the foot of West Seventh Street, Long Beach, was not contacted inasmuch as the subject

named JUDD as a reference in his application for employment at Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, and it is believed that JUDD is an intimate acquaintance of the subject.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

At Tucson, Arizona.

Will obtain subject's personal history and draft classification data from Local Board #1, Federal Building, Tucson. Subject has stated that he has a "3-A" classification.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California

Will make inquiry at the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office to ascertain the nature of investigation made in connection with the subject's car during the month of October 1942. This investigation has been described by MRS. ALBERT GETTY in the instant report.

Will contact informants concerning any political activity in which the subject may be engaging in the Los Angeles area since his return to San Pedro.

Will report the results of the mail covers placed for Subject at his Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, and his residence 430 South Walker, San Pedro.

NOTE: The undeveloped lead set forth in the reference report of Special Agent D. W. MAGEE, Los Angeles, to report the results of previous mail cover is not being followed at this time inasmuch as no mail cover was actually placed.

* Will determine whether C.C. CONLIN or ALEXANDER CONLIN, residing at 239 South Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles, are connected with the Communist Party or have Russian interests, noting that ALEXANDER CONLIN is a correspondent of subject VOLNEY MATHISON.

AT SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA

Will conduct appropriate investigation to ascertain the identity of LILLIAN (last name unknown) who is presently residing with the subject and his wife at 430 South Walker.

Will maintain contact with MRS. ALBERT R. GETTY, 422 South Walker, concerning the subject's activities.

Will contact the Farmers & Merchants Bank, and the Bank of America, to ascertain if the subject or his wife maintains an account at these banks. It is noted that the subject has stated to the GMAC at Long Beach that he had an account at the Farmers & Merchants Bank and that the subject's wife stated on her application at the Consolidated Shipyards that she maintained an account with the Bank of America.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

November 18, 1942

EGF:MLC
Call: 11:55 am
Dictated: 12:30 pm

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.,
San Francisco Field Division

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Beahm _____
Miss Gandy _____

While Assistant SAC Van Pelt was in touch with the Bureau in connection with other matters, the writer contacted him concerning the request made by the San Francisco Office for authority to establish a technical surveillance on the 20th Century Book Shop at Oakland, California. Bureau files fail to disclose any information on this book shop but there are numerous references and considerable information concerning the 20th Century Book Shop of Berkeley, California. Therefore, inquiry was made of Van Pelt whether the two book shops were identical. Van Pelt did not know whether this were true and stated he would check and advise the Bureau.

At this time, for the information of the San Francisco Office, Van Pelt was advised of the Attorney General's disapproval of requested technical surveillances to cover the following: Dr. Thomas Addis, Violet B. Orr, Mrs. Hazel Woods Lambert, Haakon M. Chevalier, and Henry Andrew Harris.

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch
E. G. Fitch

FOR DEFENSE



17 NOV 21 1942

19
JORDAN, Chester H.
477 W. 22nd Street
San Pedro, California
(Los Angeles County, California)

11ND 18080

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Ref: 11ND 17941 *YURGIONAS, John A. - 11-19-42.

(Rating A) information. John A. YURGIONAS, subject of reference and Secretary of Local #3, American Communications Association, San Pedro, California, requested information 11-16-42 from ZIC-SP regarding procedure subject should employ to obtain hearing on plea for revocation of Secretary of Navy disapproval (1-31-42) of subject's employment as radio operator on any vessel of American registry. Correct information regarding procedure was explained to the American

Communications Association Secretary. FBI-LA and MIS-LA cognizant.

11-26-42: ONI; G2-WDC; FBI-LA; FBI-Washington, D. C.; PRNC; SRNC; MIS-Washington, D. C.; 1; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9; 10; 12; 13; 14; 15ND; 5-Bermuda; MIS-LA (FIO ALL ADDRESSEES)

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(B7-C)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Phoenix FILE NO. **100-2158**

REPORT MADE AT Phoenix, Arizona	DATE WHEN MADE 3-3-43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-21,22;2-1-43	REPORT MADE BY HERMAN E. TICKEL
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R (Custodial Detention)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject registered for SS with LDB #1, Tucson, Ariz. Given III-A classification 10-9-42 in view of wife and mother dependents. Occupation, mining engineer, in mining business 20 years. Presently owns mining equipment El Datil, Sonora, Mexico, claims income \$3,000. annually. Closed mine because of shortage of supplies. Address as of 1-18-43, 430 S. Walker St., San Pedro, Calif. Never delinquent with LDB. Credit and police record Tucson negative.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent Wiley E. Mayne, Los Angeles, California, dated November 13, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT TUCSON, ARIZONA

Under date of January 21, 1943, Agent examined subject's Selective Service file at Local Board No. 1, Pima County, Tucson. This file indicates that his order number is 11873, serial number 191. At the time he registered for the Selective Training and Service Act he gave 2545 South Sixth Avenue, Tucson, Arizona, as his address, telephone number 3675. He also indicated that he could be reached in care of the Banco Pacifico, Nogales, Arizona.

The following description of subject was obtained from his Selective Service card:

Age	44 years (Born 8-13-1897, Blanche,
Height	Cotton County, Texas)
Weight	5 feet 10 1/2 inches
	170 pounds

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R42 MAY 24 1961

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 17 MAR 6 1943 INDEXED
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Phoenix file No. 100-2158
Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, WAS
SA: HERMAN E. TICKEL

(Description of subject, continued:)

Race	White
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Light
Person to always know address	GUSTAVO BENSON, Banco Pacifico, Nogales, Arizona.
Occupation	Mining engineer, employed Lacienea, Sonora, Mexico
Teeth	All false - lost from mercurial poisoning working in cinnabar ores.
Marital status	Married, wife BERTHA JEAN MATHISON, age 24 years.
Relatives	Mother, BERTHA MATHISON, age 61, address 1967 Auseon Avenue, Oakland, California.
Education	High school, place not given

On July 23, 1942, subject wrote a letter to his Board advising that his address was El Datil, La Cienaga, Via Santa Ana, Sonora, Mexico. In this letter he advised the Board that his mail had been sent to another Cienega in Sonora.

Subject executed his Selective Service Occupation Questionnaire and gave as his profession, Engineer, Matallurgical or Mining. He indicated that he has been a miner for the past twenty years. He also indicated that he was a citizen of the U. S. He stated he was presently engaged in developing cinnabar and tungsten ores in Mexico under priority of A-I-C. He listed as his annual income \$3,000. per year and employed from six to twenty-four employees.

A review of subject's questionnaire revealed that he has worked in Mexico off and on since 1915 and continuously during the past two years. His questionnaire was mailed on May 14, 1942. He said his wife's name was DOROTHY J. MATHISON, address Pleasanton, California, age 34. He stated that he has contributed \$2,200. per year to his wife, since 1929. He also indicated that he has contributed \$700. per year to his mother BERTHA MATHISON, age 71. He listed her address as 1967 Auseon Avenue, Oakland, California.

Subject further indicated in this questionnaire that he owned mining property valued at \$9,000. and purchasing property valued at \$50,000. The property of his wife is valued at \$750. and the property of his mother valued at \$1,500.

MATHISON has never been engaged in military service. His Selective Service classification was III-A as of October 9, 1942.

Phoenix file No. 100-2158
Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, WAS
SA: HERMAN E. TICKEL

Local Board No. 1 received a letter from subject dated January 18, 1943, wherein he gave as his present address 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California. In this letter subject advised that he was closing his mining business in Sonora, Mexico due to a shortage of supplies. He advised that he was currently employed by the Ship Builders and Dry Dock Company, San Pedro, California, in the installation of heavy electrical equipment in engine room of the U. S. Naval repair shop "HECTOR".

He also advised that if he found it impossible to resume mining in Sonora soon he expected to go into mining operations in Nevada or Arizona.

Subject has never been delinquent with his Local Board.

Mrs. MARGARET CARVER, Merchants Associated Credit Bureau and Captain BEN WEST, Tucson Police Department, were unable to locate a record on subject, or any of his aliases.

It is to be noted that 2545 South Sixth Avenue, Tucson, Arizona, subject's address at the time he registered for the Selective Training and Service Act is the "Linger Longer Tourist Court". Mrs. ROY A. BAKER, wife of the manager of this court, did not remember subject and knew nothing of his activities.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

MATHISON, VOLNEY GEORGE
with aliases;

Matthew Blake
J. Hall
V. G. Mathesen
Gerald Mathewson
Volney George Mathieson
J. Mathison
John G. Mathison

NATIVE BORN

COMMUNIST
K.F.

Born: 8-13-97 - Paducah, Texas

Bureau File No. 61-7749

(LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION)

430 S. Walker Street,
San Pedro, California (Res.)

Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Company,
San Pedro, California (Bus.)

101-7749
NOT RECORDED
35 AUG 11 1943

6
369 432
56 AUG 17 1943

5-5

JCM:jlh

August 12, 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
REGISTERED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Special Agent in Charge
 Los Angeles, California

RE: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases,
 CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of

X an addition to the Custodial Detention card relating to Subject. This addition is to be attached to the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card already in your possession.

— a revised Custodial Detention card relating to Subject to be substituted for the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card presently in your possession which should be destroyed.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
 Director

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____

Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Acers _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Starke _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 8

AUG 12 1943 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

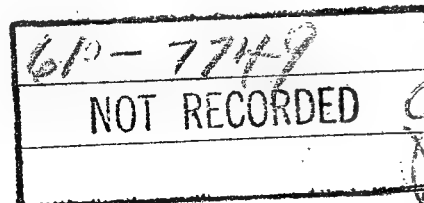
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Miss Gandy

52 AUG 16 1943



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-662**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 1/7/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/1,3,17,18/43 8/3,12,18,23, 27/43	REPORT MADE BY LESTER H. EICHERLY VL
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, was			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject terminated employment at the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, on 8/7/43. Source alleged that Subject is to recommence mining operations in Mexico. Source alleged that Subject has made several recent trips to Mexico and that he has sold his residence at 430 South Walker, San Pedro. Contact with confidential sources and informants of this office failed to indicate that the Subject has been recently active in the Communist movement.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent HERMAN E. TICKEL, dated 3/3/43 at Phoenix, Arizona.
Report of Special Agent WILLIAM F. GIESEN, dated 4/29/43 at San Francisco, California.

DETAILS:

omitted on cc to O/R ENG

Subject is carried as key figure in the Los Angeles Office.
AT SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA:

Source A advised on August 3, 1943, that the Subject and his wife, DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON, were employed at the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, California; Mrs. MATHISON having been employed for a period of about one month. This Source stated on December 27, 1943, that Mr. MATHISON had made several recent trips by train to Mexico and that the first was in the early part of August. He also determined that the Subject sold his home at 430 South Walker, San Pedro, that he moved out of it in the early part of December,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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1943, because he expected to go to Mexico and operate some mines. The Source also learned that the Subject intends to remain in Mexico if his plans materialize and if they don't he intends to go to San Francisco. The Source is of the opinion that the Subject's wife will accompany him to Mexico.

Since the above Source advised that LILLIAN _____, who lived for a short period with Mrs. MATHISON, has moved and had no further contact with her, no further investigation will be made to determine her identity.

Contact with Mr. COFFMAN, United States Shipping Commissioner's Office, Post Office Building, San Pedro, indicated that the Subject has not shipped out of San Pedro during the period from 1929 to 1935.

Mr. VAN DYKE, Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, California, advised that VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON received a temporary termination of employment on August 7, 1943. He also advised that the Subject had not received an availability certificate and that his file did not indicate any subsequent employment of the Subject.

Source D stated that the Subject had advised on December 9, 1943, that his former address is to be Box #422, P. O., Wilmington, California. It was determined that Source E has not observed any correspondence to the Subject and he advised on December 28, 1943, that observation of the Subject's correspondence will be reported for the next thirty days.

Mr. EARL DAVIS, Davis Storage Company, 594 7th Street, San Pedro, advised that the Subject had stored his household goods and that he had returned on December 28, 1943, to remove a part of them. Mr. DAVIS was of the opinion that the Subject and his wife expected to go to Mexico and that he would determine the Subject's future address because of the need of such information for his records at the Storage Company.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA:

The records of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, 14th and American Avenue, Long Beach, were reviewed by Source B and he advised that the Subject opened an account on September 18, 1941, giving an address as 634 North Fries Street, Wilmington, California, Post Office Box No. 422. The Subject indicated that he had previously had an account at the Bank of America, Hollywood, California. This Source stated that the Subject started his account with about \$200 and that his larger deposits for the year 1942 were deposits of \$1200, \$800 and \$600.

Source C advised that the Subject's bank balance on November 30, 1943, was \$2.11. This Source also stated that the Subject holds life insurance policy No. 822075 with the Aetna Life Insurance Company Agency, Los Angeles.

AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA:

Source F determined that the Subject has registered with Local Draft Board No. 1 at Tucson, Arizona, and that he advised that his address is 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California, and that he is employed by the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, California.

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

Source A reported that officers had investigated a transaction in connection with the Subject's car during October 1942, however, contact with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office and Police Department on May 4, 1943, by Special Agent MANUEL SOROLA produced negative results.

A review of the office indices and contact with confidential sources failed to indicate that C. C. ~~CONLIN~~ and ALEXANDER ~~CONLIN~~, prior correspondents of the Subject, are affiliated with the Communist movement.

Contact with the confidential sources and informants of this office failed to indicate that the Subject has recently engaged in any Communist activity.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

At Phoenix, Arizona, will recontact the Subject's Local Draft Board No. 1, at Tucson, to determine if he has advised them of his change of address and employment.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At San Pedro, California, will determine whether Mr. EARL DAVIS, Davis Storage Company, 594 7th Street, San Pedro, has ascertained the Subject's future plans and destination in Mexico.

At Los Angeles, California, will report the results of a thirty day mail cover placed with Postmaster E. A. MURPHY, Post Office, Wilmington, California, on December 28, 1943.

Will also contact confidential sources and informants of this office to determine whether the Subject engages in Communistic activities while in Mexico.

SOURCES

- Source A: Mr. and Mrs. ALBERT R. ~~GETTY~~
422 South Walker Street
San Pedro, California
(Prior neighbors of the Subject.)
- Source B: Assistant Manager, Mr. C. D. HAMMAN
Farmers & Merchants Bank
14th and American Avenue
Long Beach, California
- Source C: Mr. R. J. GRIPP
Farmers & Merchants Bank
14th and American Avenue
Long Beach, California
- Source D: Mr. Porter, Clerk, Post Office
San Pedro, California
- Source E: Postmaster, E. A. MURPHY
Post Office, Wilmington, California
- Source F: Report of Special Agent HERMAN E. TICKEL dated 3/3/43 at
Phoenix, Arizona. (L.A. File No. 100-662-42).
Special Agent HERMAN E. TICKEL indicated a review of the records
at Local Draft Board No. 1, Tucson, Arizona.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Pr. FILE NO **100-2158**

REPORT MADE AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA	DATE WHEN MADE 3-2-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/21/44	REPORT MADE BY JOHN J. JARMUL FL
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, Was.			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject's last communication to LDB 1, Tucson, Arizona, dated 1/18/43, giving address as 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California. On questionnaire under date of 5/14/42 gave address as La Cienega, via Santa Ana, Sonora, Mexico.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent LESTER H. EICHERLY, Los Angeles, California, dated January 7, 1944.

DETAILS:

AT TUCSON, ARIZONA:

A check of the subject's Selective Service file at Local Draft Board No. 1, Tucson, Arizona, revealed the subject's last contact with his Board relative to his address and employment is a letter dated January 18, 1943, which reads as follows:

"January 18, 1943

"Selective Service Board #1
Federal Building
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Sirs:

I have read a statement in the papers that persons over 38 years of age, although not subject at present to the draft, must still keep boards advised of whereabouts.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

R. P. [Signature]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61-7749-53

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cc out-62

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cc 10 D/R
5-1-48
EMG

Px. #100-2158

"This is to advise you therefore that I have had to shut down mining in Sonora, Mexico, on account of shortage of supplies and I am at present employed by the Los Angeles Shipbuilding & Drydock Co., San Pedro, Cal., in the installation of heavy electrical equipment in the engine-room of the U. S. Naval repair ship "Hector". If I find it impossible to resume mining in Nevada or Arizona, and will advise you of any further change of address.

"Present address, 430 S. Walker St., San Pedro, Cal., previous address Care Banco Pacifico, Nogales, Sonora, Class 3A, Order #11873.

"Very truly yours,

/s/ V. G. MATHISON."

It is noted that in the subject's Selective Service questionnaire dated May 14, 1942, the address given is La Cienega, Via Santa Ana, Sonora, Mexico. No other information relative to the subject's address or employment appears in said file.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-662**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 3-8-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-18; 2-5, 11, 25, 26, 27-44	REPORT MADE BY LESTER H. EICHERLY HB
TITLE VOINEY GEORGE MATHISON, was			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Source reports that Subject is seeking a residence in San Pedro. Present address unknown. Subject apparently unemployed since August 7, 1943. Confidential sources and informants failed to indicate Communistic activity of the Subject. Membership list of the San Pedro Club of the Communist Party failed to include the name of Subject.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **LESTER H. EICHERLY**, Los Angeles, California, January 7, 1944.

DETAILS:

Subject is carried as a Key Figure in the Los Angeles Field Division.

AT SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA

Mr. DAVIS, DAVIS STORAGE COMPANY, 594 7th Street, San Pedro, California, advised on February 5, 1944, that the Subject still has his household goods in storage and that he frequently returns to his office to obtain keys so that he may gain access to file drawers, which he has previously put in storage.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">61-7749-54</div> <div style="text-align: center;">25 MAR 1944</div>
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LA 100-662

Mr. DAVIS advised that the Subject stated that he wished to find a residence in San Pedro and that he indicated that his present and future plans are indefinite.

Contact with Source A and Source B failed to indicate that the Subject is presently residing in San Pedro.

Mr. BROWN, LOS ANGELES SHIPBUILDING AND DRY DOCK CORPORATION, San Pedro, California, advised that the Subject has not obtained an availability certificate since the date of his termination, which was August 7, 1943.

AT WILMINGTON, CALIFORNIA

Source C advised that he had observed the mail which was directed to the Subject's Post Office Box No. 422, Wilmington, California, for a period of thirty days commencing on December 28, 1943, and since that date the Subject has received a letter from GENERAL MOTORS, Detroit, Michigan, on February 23, 1944, and a letter from the REPUBLIC INSURANCE COMPANY, Dallas, Texas, on February 26, 1944.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Source D stated that the Subject still maintains his checking account at the Farmers and Merchants Bank, 14th and American Streets, Long Beach, California.

This Source advised on February 27, 1944, that the Subject's account was approximately \$73.00 and that the only address that the Subject maintained is Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California.

Contact with the confidential sources and informants of this office failed to indicate that the Subject has recently been engaged in Communist activities.

Source E made available to Reporting Agent on January 28, 1944, the 1944 Membership Records of the San Pedro Club of the Communist Party. It was observed that these records failed to include the name of the Subject.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION

*At Tucson, Arizona, Will recontact the Subject's Local Draft Board No. 1, to determine if he has advised them of his change of address and employment.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Long Beach, California, Will contact Mr. G. COPE, Credit Manager, GMAC, Long Beach, to determine if the Subject has completed his financial obligations on his automobile.

At San Pedro, California, Will re-contact Mr. EARL DAVIS, DAVIS STORAGE COMPANY, 594 Seventh Street, to determine if the Subject has removed his household goods or whether he has indicated his future place of residence and employment.

At Los Angeles, California, Will remain in contact with the confidential sources and informants of this office to determine if the Subject is engaged in Communistic activities.

SOURCES

- Source A - Mrs. ~~X~~FARRELL
Los Angeles City Department of Water & Power
248 West 7th Street
San Pedro, California
- Source B - Mr. ~~X~~TURNER
Southern Counties Gas Company of California
296 West 7th Street
San Pedro, California
- Source C - Postmaster E. A. MURPHY
Post Office
Wilmington, California
- Source D - Mr. R. E. ~~X~~DICKINSON
Farmers and Merchants Bank
14th and American Streets
Long Beach, California
~~X~~CONF. INFO.
- Source E - CNDI
(Los Angeles File 100-13364-1a49).

The above sources are carried as such in compliance with their request that their relations with this office be kept confidential.



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles 13, California
March 17, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases,
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

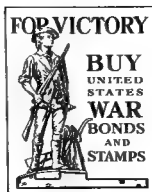
Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau Bulletin No. 11, dated February 9, 1944, wherein it is requested that the Bureau be furnished photographs of all "Key Figures". Accordingly, a photograph taken by the subject in September, 1942 by the Plant Protection Department of the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Corporation, San Pedro, California, is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood
R. B. HOOD
SAC

Attached
ENCE 100
LHE:RM
100-662
Encl. 1
173
7C



Op. 22

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EX-7

61-7749-555
FBI
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300.

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU:

1 Photograph of subject VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON,
Key Figure

Re: VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Los Angeles File No. 100-662



Photograph of VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON

Age	46
Birthdate	August 13, 1897
Birthplace	Blanche, Texas
Height	5'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	170 lbs.
Race	White
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Light
Teeth	False
Wife	DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON

61-7749-55

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-662**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 5/5/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/5, 13, 19, 25, 26/44 5/2/44	REPORT MADE BY ELDON W. STUTZMAN VL
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, was			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Additional data relative to Subject's past connection with Friends of Soviet Union and his trip to Moscow obtained. Further background information on Subject's past employment set forth. Sources fail to establish any connection with or activity for Communist Party on the part of the Subject at the present time. Subject's present occupation and address unknown.

-P-

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **LESTER H. EICHERLY** at Los Angeles dated 3/8/44.

DETAILS:

The files of the Los Angeles Field Division reflect this Subject is now being carried as a key figure.

AT SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA:

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R48 MAY 24 1961**

Past Background and
Activities

Source A made available the following information concerning the past background and activities of the Subject: In 1933 the Subject under the name of **MARTIN DARRELL** held membership card number 8865 in the Friends of the Soviet Union, United States Section. This card indicates that the dues for the

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JWM 5-23-44

year 1933 were paid and also the dues for January 1944. The card further indicates that as of July 15, 1933, the Subject transferred to New York City from San Francisco and the transfer was signed by D. RUBY.

Source A further advised that the Subject had received the following letters from DAVID RUBY, Assistant Secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

"District Office
Northern California Section
Friends of the Soviet Union
1179 Market Street, Rm. 201
San Francisco, California

"December 6, 1933

"Volney G. Mathison
112 West 13th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Comrade,

"At your request we can state that you have participated on the platform at former FSU meetings urging recognition of the USSR, and that you have done valued work in the recognition signature campaign.

DAVID RUBY
Assistant Secretary"

"December 6, 1933

"Volney G. Mathison
112 West 13th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Comrade,

"At your request we will state that we have sound reason to believe that as a properly authorized representative of any American company you will be entirely persona grata in the USSR, that your past interests and activities should place you in a most advantageous position there, and that in our opinion there should be no question but that you can obtain entre into any quarter where you have a bonafide matter to present.

DAVID RUBY
Assistant Secretary"

Source A also advised that the Subject had the following letter of recommendation for his trip to Moscow in 1933. This letter was written in both English and Russian.

"American Radio Telegraphists Association
20 Irving Place
New York City

"October 18, 1933.

"The Trades Unions Authority of the
UNION of SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
Moscow and/or Leningrad
U.S.S.R.

"Greetings:

"This is to certify that the bearer, Brother Volney George Mathison, is hereby duly authorized to represent the American Radio Telegraphists Association, Inc., U. S. A. This is a trade union OF, FOR, and BY, the American Commercial Radio Operators.

"Brother Mathison is hereby delegated to represent this organization at the Moscow celebrations of November Seventh.

"Any assistance or courtesies extended to Brother Mathison by the Authorities of the Soviet Trades Unions and/or by any authorities of the UNION of SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS will be greatly appreciated.

"Thank you!

"Very truly yours,

"HOYT S. HADDOCK, President."

Photostatic copies of the membership card of the Subject in the Friends of the Soviet Union and of the above letters are being placed in the 1-A serial of this file.

Source A also advised that the Subject had written the following personal history of himself apparently intending to use it for a job application:

"Born at Blance, Cottle County, Texas, on August 13, 1897. Graduated from Marconi Radio Institute, San Francisco, November 1914. Became Marine Radio Operator. Was employed for a long time as special radio operator by the Compagnie du Boleo, Santa Rosalia, Lower California, Mexico, a French copper smelter, to listen in on pro-German radio traffic in the Gulf of California.

"On entry of the United States into the war, returned to San Francisco, was placed in classification 5-B and went to Alaska where constructed two coastal radio stations, KOXN and KUI for the Alaska Codfish Company, San Francisco and Union Fish Company, San Francisco. These companies were packing fish for sale to allied governments.

"After the war, resumed Marine radio operating. In 1935 entered into a tentative private deal with A. Y. TUEL, General Superintendent of Mackay Radio and Telephone Company, a subsidiary of the International Telephone and Telegraph Company, to go to Russia and try to negotiate for a radio telegraph point-to-point communication channel between Moscow and New York as the RCA at that time had exclusive monopoly on this traffic route. On the basis of this arrangement, went to New York Headquarters of the American Communist Party and applied for membership. After some delay a membership book was obtained and made a trip to Leningrad on the Moore McCormick steamship 'Seanivail'. Went to Moscow where remained three days. Seemed unable to see anybody of importance and was advised to deal with Amtorg in New York. Returned to New York but could not get anywhere with Amtorg and the project was abandoned. (About one year later Mr. TUEL himself obtained the desired arrangements by negotiating with some Russian mission that came to New York.)

"In January 1934 took an assignment from HOYT HADDOCK, President of ARTA to go to San Francisco or organize radio operators. Had about one hundred and twenty-five men organized in the ARTA when 1934 Maritime strike started. Did not put operators actively into this strike or have anything to do with the strike committee that was set up and as a result so much political trouble was stirred up that in July 1934, resigned from a local section of a group of broadcast operators. I was then organizing in Los Angeles and left the Union entirely for a year as I suffered severe nervous shock from the entire affair and wanted no further part of it.

"In 1935 began doing radio construction and design work for fishing vessels and gambling ships in the Los Angeles Harbor and found it expedient to rejoin the ARTA. In 1936 to '37 strike, was pulled into the San Pedro strike Committee on account of being available in the harbor area and became chairman of the publicity committee. Here encountered nothing but trouble with I.W.W. faction for advocating programs for ending the dispute; and especially got into trouble for supporting a Communist faction which for some reason was in favor of working perishable cargoes, particularly bananas, and corn on ships tied up in the harbor. Was given a Communist book which I

"had not applied for. I did not attend any meetings or pay any dues and the book was shortly taken up again for safekeeping and have never seen anything of these people since.

"Resumed radio work for fishing boats and gambling ships. Received a contract from Van Camp Sea Food Company, Wilmington, to rebuild a radiotelegraph installation on a Japanese vessel, the 'Amano' and I was so suspicious of the whole appearance of this vessel that I communicated with the U. S. Naval Intelligence agents of the harbor area; they investigated the vessel and I have no knowledge what they found out about it.

"When the gambling ships closed, I discontinued radio shop work at Wilmington and went to Arizona prospecting as had been doing off and on for twenty years and have continued prospecting since then to present date, particularly looking for mercury, manganese and antimony in Arizona and Sonora and may soon start a small mercury operation in the state of Guerrero, Mexico."

Source A stated that the Subject is known to have the following books at the present time: "USSR" published in the USSR; "Life of Lenin" by P. Querzhentsev; "Soviet Power" by Hewlett Johnson; "History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union" published by the International Publishers.

Source B advised that the Subject still has his household effects stored at the Davis Storage Company warehouse in the 3000 block of South Pacific. The Subject on one occasion remarked to Source B that he was having difficulty finding a place to live and he thought it would be necessary for him to purchase a home somewhere in this vicinity. On another occasion Source B said the Subject inquired of him whether the police had been around investigating him. The Subject said that he had become a naturalized citizen of this country but that they might be investigating him because he was born in a foreign country.

Source C reported that between March 6 and April 24, 1944, the Subject received communications from the following addressees: JOHN F. ROBERTSON, 605 North Huntington Avenue, Monterey Park, California; Hollywood Sound Institute, 1040 North Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles; Seaboard Finance Company, Post Office Box 468, Long Beach, California; W. Schligne, Bowman Hotel, Nogales, Arizona; Department of Forrester, 524 South Spring Street, Los Angeles; A. W. Richard, 921 South Beacon, San Pedro, Department of Building and Safety, Room 201 City Hall, Los Angeles, California; Pacific Finance Corporation of California, 1525 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles; Ed Eisenhower, Jr., 320 San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, California; Gardner and McKinley Insurance Agency, 1095 American Avenue, Long Beach, California. Notice to attend Democratic Council meeting in Compton sent by HAROLD SHAPIRO, political action chairman U.O.P.W.A. #9.

Also received in the Subject's mail box was a card from the

Western Union addressed to CARL M. ~~DARRELL~~, 834 North Freis Avenue, Wilmington, California, giving notice of an undelivered telegram. A card addressed to the same individual was also sent by the California State Department of Motor Vehicles to the same address. This indicated that CARL M. DARRELL presently has registered in his name a 1937 Chevrolet coupe, license number 1W8910, serial number 21GB0420388, legal owner, Argonaut Finance Company, Los Angeles, California.

Source D advised that he had no record of the Subject residing at 834 North Freis Street, San Pedro.

Source E stated that the telegram which was addressed to CARL M. DARRELL at 834 North Freis, was sent by the Pacific Finance Corporation, 1525 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, relative to an installment payment on his car.

Source F advised that to his knowledge, no one by the Subject's name or description had resided at 834 North Freis nor had any individual by the name of CARL M. DARRELL resided there.

The records of Source G were checked with negative results. Sources H and I were checked with negative results.

Source J advised that the records of the Pacific Finance Corporation, 1525 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California, indicated that an automobile loan had been made to CARL MARTIN ~~DARRELL~~, 834 North Freis, Wilmington, California. On the statement to the company, DARRELL indicated that he had formerly lived at 1687 West Ausean Street, Oakland, and had been engaged in the poultry business. He stated that he was presently employed by himself in the produce business. Source J said that all of the references listed by this individual were returned indicating that DARRELL was unknown or that the references had been fictitious.

Source K stated that the Argonaut Finance Company, 2432 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California, had no record of making an automobile loan to CARL M. DARRELL.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will re-contact the Pacific Finance Corporation, 1525 South Figueroa, Los Angeles, to determine whether CARL M. DARRELL has been located by their collector and if so, obtain the present address of this individual.

Will endeavor to ascertain whether CARL MARTIN DARRELL is identical with the Subject.

Will endeavor to ascertain Subject's present address and occupation by re-contact of Sources listed in this report and will make a check of the confidential sources available to the office to determine whether the Subject has recently had any activity in connection with the Communist Party.

SOURCES

- Source A: A highly confidential Source made available to the writer by Mr. EARL DAVIS, 594 Seventh Street, San Pedro.
- Source B: Mr. EARL DAVIS
594 Seventh Street
San Pedro
- Source C: J. W. MacCABE
Superintendent of Mails
Wilmington, California
- Source D: Mr. A. H. REEVES
Dept. of Power and Light
618 Avalon Boulevard
Wilmington, California
- Source E: Mr. A. E. MATHEWS
Western Union
328 Avalon Boulevard
Wilmington, California
- Source F: Mr. EARL HUDDLESTON
828 North Freis Street
Wilmington, California
- Source G: Ration Board
110 East Annaheim Boulevard
Wilmington, California
- Source H: Credit Manager, G.M.A.C.
Long Beach, California
- Source I: George Williams
Seaboard Finance Company
Long Beach, California
- Source J: Gordon I. Lee
Pacific Finance Corporation
1525 South Figueroa
Los Angeles, California
- Source K: Frank E. Blackwood
Argonaut Finance Corporation
2432 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, California

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. 100-662

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 8/4/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/23, 30; 6/12, 16, 22, 23, 26/44	REPORT MADE BY ELDON W. STUTZMAN JCJ
TITLE VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, Was. Volney Mathieson, Volney G. Mathieson, Gerald Matthewson, Matthew Blake, John G. Mathison, J. Hall, V. G. Matheson, D. J. Mathison, V. G. Mathison, Darrell Mathison, Darrell Martin, Martin Darrell			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis of Facts:

Subject's present address 1100 South Berendo St. LA. Subject has been reported out of city most of the time and is known to have been in Mexico. Subject appears to be endeavoring to keep his activities and residence address unknown as on all his business transactions has furnished incorrect data. Leads set forth to check subject's purpose of entry into Mexico and present occupation. No indication subject is now active in C.P.A. in Harbor Area.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **ELDON W. STUTZMAN**, dated 5/5/44 at Los Angeles.

DETAILS:

Omitted in cc sent to P/R EMG

The files of the Los Angeles Field Division reflect that the subject is carried as a key figure.

AT WILMINGTON, CALIFORNIA:

Source "A" advised that the subject's mail accumulated at his Post Office Box from early in March of this year until the first part of June, when the subject called for it. At that time a registered letter addressed to **CARL MARTIN DARRELL** was refused by the subject, although he took several other letters which were addressed to this individual. His reason for refusing the registered letter was that he was simply

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LA 100-662

allowing Mr. DARRELL to use his mailing address but that he did not wish to sign for any letters for him. Source "A" advised that of the mail which the subject received from about April 28 to May 22, 1944, it was for the most part advertisements and included several letters and bills for the subject's wife. A letter addressed to the subject marked May 4, 1944 was received from Sergeant H. E. LLOYD, ASN 39269539, Cannon C.R. 334, Inf., APO 84, Camp Claibourne, Louisiana.

At the time the subject called for his mail he refused to leave an address where it could be forwarded, stating that he was not located permanently. In the course of the conversation with Source "A", the subject mentioned that he had recently been staying in San Ysidro, California.

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

Source "B" advised that the subject applied for a projectionist permit on April 3, 1944. At that time he listed his address as Cottage 6, 415 Elm Street, Long Beach, California. The subject passed the necessary test for the projectionist permit and Source "B" stated that several letters were received from the subject from Mexico. These letters stated that it would be necessary for him to delay securing his permit and that he would be in to get it at a later date. Subject subsequently came to secure his permit on June 12, 1944, but did not have a photograph with him and advised that he would appear again as soon as it was possible for him to secure one.

Records of the Registrar of Voters, 808 North Spring Street, were checked by the writer on June 22, 1944. No current registration was found for the subject. A registration dated January 24, 1944, Certificate Number D-372211, was completed in the name of Mrs. JEAN MATHISON, 1100 South Berendo, Los Angeles, California. Mrs. MATHISON stated that she was employed as a stenographer, she was 5' 4", born in Indiana, declined to state her party and listed her last address as 430 South Walker Street, San Pedro, California. This is the last known address of subject and his wife Mrs. JEAN MATHISON, from which they moved in January 1944.

The mail box for apartment 103, 1100 South Berendo, lists the occupants of that apartment as Mr. and Mrs. VOLNEY G. MATHISON. Mrs. AGNES PALLISARD, Apartment 1, is the Manager of the Apartment House. Before any contact is made with the Manager efforts will be made to ascertain whether she may be a friend or relative of the subject or his wife.

Efforts to establish the name of CARL MARTIN DARRELL as an alias of the subject were not successful. Source "C" advised that a registered letter sent to CARL MARTIN DARRELL at Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California was returned unclaimed. This is the Post Office Box which is

rented in the name of the subject and Source "A" previously referred to the registered letter which the subject refused to sign. It would appear, however, that this is a new alias of the subject inasmuch as MARTIN DARRELL has been used as his party name in the past. It is also noted in a review of the file that the automobile which the subject had while he resided at 430 South Walker Street, was registered in the name of CARL MARTIN DARRELL and the subject was known to have used this car for over a period of a year. Also in the Purchaser Statement to the Pacific Finance Company in connection with the recent purchase of a car by CARL MARTIN DARRELL this individual listed his address as 834 North Fries Street, Wilmington, California, and it is known that the subject in 1940 received mail at 834 North Fries Street. Neither subject or CARL MARTIN DARRELL could be identified at 834 North Fries Street, but a request had been made at the Wilmington Post Office by an unidentified individual that all mail for DARRELL be sent to Post Office Box 422, which is in the subject's name.

Source "C" stated that the account which DARRELL has with his company has not been paid and that all efforts to locate this individual have been negative inasmuch as all business and personal references, previous residence, business addresses, listed by DARRELL on his purchaser statement were fictitious.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA:

Source "D" advised that the subject's checking account with the Farmers and Merchants Bank, 4th and American Avenue, totaled approximately \$100.00. The following is a list of cancelled checks as furnished by Source "D":

<u>PAYOR</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<u>VOLNEY MATHISON</u>	Bowman Hotel Nogales, Arizona	June 16, 1944	\$10.00
VOLNEY MATHISON	Doctor G. BAILEY	June 5, 1944	37.00
VOLNEY MATHISON	G. BENSON, Benson Tourist, Nogales, Arizona	June 2, 1944	5.44

It is pointed out here that G. BENSON may be identical with GUSTAVO BENSON, Banco Pacific, Nogales, Arizona, who is listed by the subject on his Selective Service Questionnaire as the individual who would always know his address.

LA 100-662

The only address listed for the subject on the records of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, according to Source "D", was Post Office Box 422, Wilmington, California.

A check was made at 415 Elm Street, which is the address listed by the subject on his projectionist permit. In connection with this address, a review of the file reveals that it was used by the subject in 1940, at which time Cottage 6, 415 Elm Street, was occupied by a friend of subject's wife, a Mrs. W. J. RAY, who was active in Communist Party activities in the Harbor Area. The present owner of the court at 415 Elm Street, Mrs. BAKER, advised that neither the subject or Mrs. RAY were known to her and had not been receiving mail at that address.

A thirty-day mail cover is being placed on the subject's address at Apartment 103, 1100 South Berendo, Los Angeles, California, and the results will be reported when available.

For the benefit of offices which have not previously received reports in connection with this case, the following information concerning the subject is furnished. During World War I the subject operated a radio station in Mexico which he claims was monitoring German broadcasts for the Allies. It is reported, however, that the activities of the subject may not have been on behalf of the Allies at that time. He held a Mexican radio operator's license dated December 6, 1917 certifying his ability to receive and transmit 30 words per minute in Spanish.

Following the War the subject had various radio jobs and in 1933 became active in the American Communications Association and is known to have attended an International Labor Convention as a delegate representing that Union in Moscow. There he met M. KALLINAN, Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the U.S.S.R. and other Soviet Government Officials.

This office is in possession of information concerning communications which the subject had with the O.G.P.U. indicating that the subject may have been working for that organization at one time.

The subject was first known to become a member of the Communist Party in 1933 and since that time has been associated with various ranking Party functionaries in the East and on the West Coast. The subject was the first Secretary of Local 7 of the American Communications Association of San Pedro and was active in Union affairs up until about 1938. In 1934 the subject was one of the organizers in the A.R.T.A. when the Maritime Strike was started.

LA 100-662

The subject is known to have continued his work in Radio and is considered an expert in this field, capable of installing the most modern equipment. It was known that at one time he installed illegal equipment on fishing boats and on several gambling ships which were located out of Los Angeles Harbor. In the past several years the subject has apparently also been interested in mining activities and has claimed to various individuals that his travels have been undertaken in order to seek mining property.

The subject apparently is very anxious to conceal his activities and his residence address as he has on several occasions given fictitious information concerning these. Recently to one informant with whom the subject was talking, he asked whether the Police had been to see the informant regarding him. It is known that the subject has in the past attempted to determine whether an investigation was being conducted of his activities.

As far as can be determined the subject has ceased activities on behalf of the Communist Party in this area, but in view of his past connections with prominent Party functionaires and his apparent connection with the Russian O.G.P.U., an attempt is being made to ascertain his present activities. The subject is known to speak fluent Russian and Spanish.

It is believed that the subject is identical with CARL MARTIN DARRELL, in whose name a 1937 Chevrolet tudor sedan, License Number 1 W 8910, is registered. The subject may possibly be using this car in connection with his travel in Mexico.

The subject is described as follows:

Born	August 13, 1897
Place	Blanche, Cotton County, Texas
Height	5' 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	170
Race	White
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Light
Teeth	All false
Wife	DOROTHY JEAN MATHISON

- P E N D I N G -

- 5 -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

At Washington, D. C. will contact the State Department to determine whether the subject has received a passport since 1941. It is known that his first American Passport was issued on October 3, 1940, Number 672331, for a period of one year.

Will furnish whatever data is available in the event a recent passport has been issued and will also check as to whether the subject has had any recent communications with the State Department relative to entry into Mexico, in the event there is no record of a passport.

THE SAN DIEGO FIELD DIVISION:

At San Ysidro, California will check with the Immigration and Naturalization Service to determine whether there is any record of the subject's entry into Mexico. It is pointed out that the subject stated that he had been staying in San Ysidro, and that it was also reported that subject had sent letters to this city from Mexico. It is known that in 1941 the subject possessed a Mexican border pass because of frequent trips which he made to Mexico. If possible, information should be developed as to the purpose of the subject's entry into Mexico and his destination.

THE PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION:

At Nogales, Arizona will discreetly ascertain whether G. BENSON, operator of the Benson Tourist, is active in the Communist Party and if so whether the subject, who appears to be well known to BENSON, is known to have taken part in activities there.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION:

At Los Angeles, California will recontact Mr. TOM MANNIX, 201 City Hall, Department of Building and Safety, to ascertain whether the subject has procured his projectionist permit and has secured employment in this occupation.

Will ascertain either through the owner of the Apartment House at 1100 South Berendo Street, or through the Manager, Mrs. AGNES PALLISARD, whether the subject is to be permanently located in Los Angeles and what information is known concerning his activities and occupation.

Will report the results of the 30 day mail cover placed on the subject's address.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

- "A" J. W. MAC CABE
Superintendent of Mails
Wilmington, California
- "B" Mr. TOM MANNIX, Accounting Division
201 City Hall
Department of Building and Safety
Los Angeles, California
- "C" GORDON LEE
Pacific Finance Corporation
1525 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, California
- "D" Mr. W. R. HORTON, Assistant Cashier
Farmers and Merchants Bank
14th and American Avenue
Long Beach, California

(The above informants have all requested that their names be kept confidential).

GEA:VH

62455

September 6, 1944

SAC, Los Angeles

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

VOLNEY GEORGE MATHISON, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reference is made to the pending report of Special Agent Eldon B. Staatsman at Los Angeles, California, dated August 4, 1944 captioned "Volney George Mathison, Internal Security - C."

A review of reference report discloses that Mathison has endeavored on numerous occasions to conceal his identity and he has furnished false information relative to his address and identity in a number of business transactions. He has recently visited Mexico under unusual circumstances and little is known concerning his present activities.

A review of the files of the Bureau discloses that Mathison, in 1942 in a letter to a confidential informant, admitted that he had been acquainted with agents of the OGPU and continued that he was still pro-Soviet in his feelings. The report of Special Agent D. W. McGee at Los Angeles, California, dated January 14, 1942, captioned as above, contained translations of several communications between Volney Mathison and the Leningrad OGPU in which he stated that they would be informed when he would arrive in the USSR and requested that they meet him with a translator.

In view of Mathison's previous association with the OGPU, as the NKVD was termed prior to 1914, and the possibility that he may still be associated in some respect with the Soviet Secret Intelligence Service, the Bureau desires that this investigation be directed along lines to determine whether subject is presently associated with, or assisting Soviet agents in the United States. The activities on his trips into Mexico should be ascertained and if necessary a surveillance instituted in order to determine his contacts and activities while in the United States.

The Bureau further desires that future communications in this matter be captioned "Internal Security - R."

cc - Phoenix
San Diego
Washington, D. C.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
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[Handwritten signatures and initials]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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SEP 7 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE: 3/16/59
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